

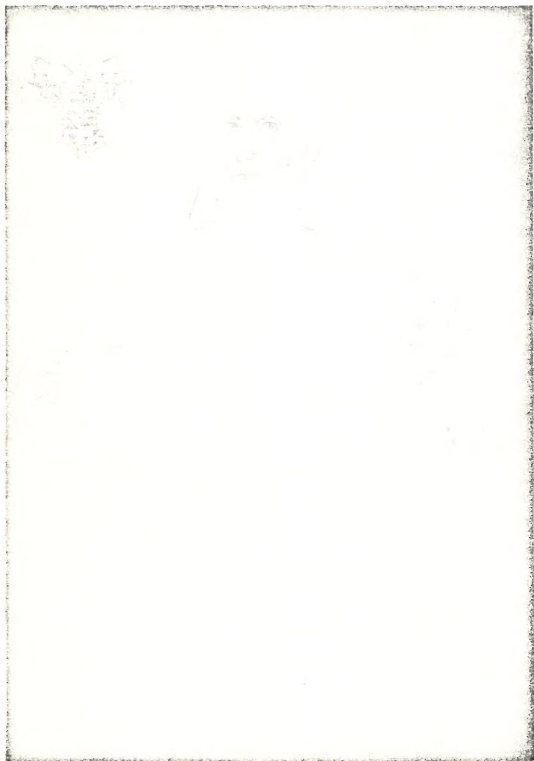
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SIR THOMAS MANSEL, FIRST BARONET OF MARGAM.

B. 1560 (?); died 1631; Knighted 1591; created Baronet 1611.

(*Peirce Collection.*)

HISTORY OF THE FAMILY OF MAUNSELL (MANSELL, MANSEL)

¶ COMPILED CHIEFLY FROM DATA COLLECTED
DURING MANY YEARS BY COLONEL CHARLES A.
MAUNSELL ¶ WRITTEN BY EDWARD PHILLIPS
STATHAM RETIRED COMMANDER R.N. AUTHOR OF
'THE STORY OF THE BRITANNIA', 'PRIVATEERS AND
PRIVATEERING', ETC. AND JOINT-AUTHOR OF
'THE HOUSE OF HOWARD' ¶ WITH ILLUSTRATIONS

v. 2, pt. 1
VOLUME TWO

PART ONE

LONDON: KEGAN PAUL TRENCH & CO. LIMITED
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HISTORY OF THE FAMILY OF
MAUNSELL—MANSELL—MANSEL

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FOREWORD

By Colonel C. A. Maunsell

IN the first volume Commander Statham has carried this history down to the end of Sir Robert Mansel's interesting career, dealing fearlessly with all the corrupt practices of those who held office in the days of Queen Elizabeth, James, and Charles. This proud Welshman appears to have been of a domineering and tactless nature, and thus he made many enemies. The most fruitful cause of enmity was no doubt his possession of the great monopoly for the manufacture of glass.

Commander Statham has cleared up as far as possible the polemic problem of the parentage of Sir John Maunsell, Treasurer of York.

He has given an account of the advent of the Maunsells to Ireland, where they held high and important posts in the time of Henry III.

He has placed before us interesting events in Irish history, the rebellion of Silken Tom, *temp.* Henry VIII., a rising in a great measure due to the vacillating and weak government of the Deputy, Skeffington, the Settlement of Captain Mansel on a grant of land near Lifford, etc.

On Irish history the veil is again lifted in an interesting account of the Rebellion of 1641, when Captain Thos. Maunsell was driven by the rebels from his properties in Ireland, Derryvillane, etc. This rebellion was also due to the weakness and ineptness of the Government of those days; and now we have passed through another rebellion, due to exactly the same cause.

He has renaissanceed the Memoirs of great Clerics and learned Professors: Dr. Francis Mansel, the great Royalist Principal of Jesus College, Oxford, who devoted his life to the rebuilding of his beloved College and its library, in which he was financially assisted by his cousin, Sir Lewis Mansel. Francis Mansel, like many other followers of the spendthrift Stuarts, ended his life at Oxford in anything but affluence. His portrait hangs in Jesus College Hall,

and by the kind permission of the present Principal is reproduced in this volume.

He deals with the life of Dr. J. Mansell, the Principal of Queen's College, Cambridge, a somewhat remarkable man.

Also with that of Bishop Lort Mansel, Principal of Trinity College, Cambridge, the intimate friend of one of England's greatest Prime Ministers, Spencer Perceval, who met his death at the hands of an assassin on the floor of the House of Commons. The Bishop of Bristol was a noted satirist, and many of his witty sallies will be found in the *Satirist*.

Then he comes to the great Dean of St. Paul's, Henry Longueville Mansel, one of Dr. Burgo's (Dean of Chichester) "twelve good men."

Then he deals with Charles Granville Mansell, a great Indian Civil Servant, one of the "sleeping and travelling triumvirate" of the Punjab, the others being John and Henry Lawrence.

Of soldiers he deals in the second volume with the memoirs of Major-General John Mansel of Cosgrove, who commanded the heavy Cavalry at the battle of La Cateau, a battle of which Fortescue, in concluding his description of this great fight, writes, "So ended this, the greatest victory in the history of British Horse."

Then he deals with Major-General J. Maunsell (Ballywilliam), whose report, during a visit to England in 1775, of the reception of the Earl of Chatham's scheme for the pacification of the American Colonies was quoted by ministers in condemnation of the scheme.

Then he tells us of Colonel J. Mansel, C.B., of Smedmore, who, after a brilliant career in the Peninsula, commanded the guard over Napoleon in St. Helena;

Of General Frederick Maunsell, 85th (Shropshire) Regiment, also a Peninsula veteran who heads five generations of Maunsells in that grand old Corps;

Of Sir Thomas Maunsell, K.C.B., of Ballywilliam, who fought and bled in the Sikhs Wars, Moultan, Chillianwallah, and the Crimea;

And of General Sir Frederick Maunsell, Colonel Commandant, R.E., who has lately passed away, whose last words were, "Napoleon would have done otherwise."

Commander Statham has unquestionably carried out his onerous work in the spirit of the true-hearted genealogist and family

historian. Given a name and a date, he puzzles out the true position of the individual and places him or her in the proper niche in the family tree; he has the real sense of proportion which enables him to neglect the unessential, and keep things clear, and above all has the historian's wit which reveals a situation or human character with the fresh light of happy phrases.

I have watched him pounding away steadily and competently from fact to fact, always keeping in view the hunted hare, and, as a true huntsman, never lifting the hounds until he has run his quarry to death, and thus with the cumulative results of good sense and a right instinct, he makes himself a safe and certain guide.

It is an intense pleasure to me to again record my thanks to Commander Statham and to look back to the many pleasant afternoons which we enjoyed together at the Junior United Service Club and Constitutional Club, discussing the various chapters in this history.

Moreover, it is a real joy to have found an author and a friend who is even more keen on this work than I am myself, after having spent many, many years and much money in collecting information and placing it in his willing and careful hands.

The thoroughness and narrative skill with which Commander Statham has carried out this biography is worthy of whole-hearted praise. He has spared no pains. It is certainly astonishing how much material he has gathered together under the dust of over eight centuries.

Not only printed books, but strange, almost unreadable MSS. in the British Museum, the Record Office, Somerset House, and old newspaper files, etc., has he assiduously searched for evasive details, and to these fruits of industry must be added a lively and sensitive style and a brilliant faculty for unravelling character and motive.

Commander Statham writes admirably well, and in many respects this book is a model of the biographers' art. Profuse, picturesque, and critical, he has shewn us how members of the family have fought for England, the home of Shakespeare and Keats and Dickens, for truth, honour, liberty, and civilisation, and how our immediate kinsmen, children of the Empire, have come from all corners of the earth to fight against "scientific barbarism," and for everything that Christian manhood holds dear.

{CHARLES A. MAUNSELL.

J.U.S. CLUB.

PREFACE

THERE should have been no need of a preface to this volume, the scope of the work and other matter having been fully dealt with in that of the first volume.

Unfortunately, some errors have found their way into the first volume, which demand more ample explanation than is conveyed in a mere list of corrections.

It will be recollected that John Maunsell, Provost of Beverley, etc., died, according to certain chronicles quoted, about January 20, 1265;¹ but whether he died in England or, as the writer of "*Chronica de Mailros*" has it, "*in partibus transmarinis*," remained doubtful. The editor of the "*Century Encyclopædia of Names*" appears, however, to have found in some old record more definite information, for it is stated in that work that Maunsell died at Florence, in January, 1265. This statement was not discovered until after the first volume was in print; there is no indication of the authority upon which it is based, and a considerable amount of farther research has failed in discovering the record. The statement may very possibly be true, though it is not easy to conjecture why John Maunsell, who had had at least a portion of his lands restored to him by the king a year previously,² should have elected to end his life in Italy; but there is a good deal of mystery attached to his last days, and probably there are complications which, for some reason, have not come to light.

The most prominent errors which have to be corrected are, however, in the titles attached to certain portraits in the first volume, to wit: Sir Hugh Mansel (p. 234); Sir Rhys Mansel (p. 283); and Sir Edward Mansel (p. 336).

These portraits, as will be seen in the reproductions, have each a label at the upper right-hand corner giving the name of the subject; and it was assumed—too hastily—that these labels would have been placed there by some member of the family who was well acquainted

¹ See vol. i., p. 169.

² *Ibid.*, pp. 180, 181.

with the facts. Such labels on family portraits are very common, and are probably in most instances correct.

These, however, are very far from being so. This had been realised long before this work was undertaken, but unfortunately the evidence which condemns them was overlooked at the time of writing, as were also some anachronisms in the matter of costume, etc., which, indeed, were commented upon by several of the reviewers, who were better versed in such matters than the author.

It remains, therefore, to make amends, however tardily, for these mistakes: and for the means of so doing the author and the reader are chiefly indebted to Mrs. Story Maskeleyne, whose place in the family pedigree is clearly set forth in the present volume.¹

Mrs. Maskeleyne has for many years taken an immense interest in the Mansels of Margam and their forebears, and is very familiar with the portraits and monuments at Margam and Penrice. Some years ago she obtained the valuable expert opinion of the Director of the National Portrait Gallery as to the dates at which these portraits were painted, which, together with the dress, sufficiently discredit the titles displayed in the labels, and adopted at foot.

SIR HUGH MANSEL. The approximate date of the portrait is 1600 to 1630, and Hugh Mansel flourished in the fourteenth century.

This may very possibly be the portrait of Sir Lewis Mansel, who was living *circa* 1584-1638; he is represented with a similar pointed beard on his monument in Margam church.

SIR RHYS MANSEL, with his second wife, Anne, daughter of Sir Giles Bridges, and their daughter Catherine. The approximate date is 1610; Sir Rhys died in 1559, and his second wife, Anne, died before 1527, in which year his third marriage took place.

This may very probably be Sir Thomas Mansel, eldest son of Sir Edward Mansel of Margam, with his second wife, Jane (widow of J. Bussy), and their daughter Mary. Thomas Mansel was created a baronet in 1611; this portrait may very likely have been painted at that time. Sir Thomas certainly looks old for his age, which would be about five and fifty.

SIR EDWARD MANSEL, who married Lady Jane Somerset. The approximate date is 1665; Sir Edward was living 1531-1585.

This may be the portrait of Sir Edward, son of Sir Lewis

¹ See pedigree, p. 45.

Mansel; he was living 1638-1706, and accompanied the Duke of Beaufort on his "progress" in Wales, in 1684, as described hereafter.

Mrs. Maskeleyne is of the opinion that the names were inscribed upon the canvases at a late date, and has a shrewd suspicion as to the identity of the perpetrator; this, however, she has not divulged, nor would it be desirable that the name should be here mentioned; the *faux pas* has been atoned for as far as is possible, and there the matter must rest.

In the review of the first volume (*The Times Literary Supplement*, September 13, 1917, p. 437) is the following comment: "The authors appear to have overlooked the existence of the Syrian branch of the family, which rose to high and well-authenticated honour in the States of the Crusaders during the thirteenth century," etc.

In response to an enquiry concerning these Syrian Mansels, the reviewer kindly supplied some details, for which he gives full references.

From these it appears that Robert Mansel witnessed a charter of Bohemund III., Prince of Antioch, in 1163, and again in 1171. In March, 1175, another charter of the same prince was witnessed by Thomas, son of Robert Mansel, who on August 20, 1178, granted the Manor of Beauce, with its appurtenances and an annual payment of two hundred bezants from his rents in Latakia and Antioch, to Roger de Moulins, Grand Master of the Order of the Hospital of St. John in Jerusalem. Thomas Mansel was also Baron of Gabala, near Latakia, in 1187; but he lost his lordship in 1187-88, when Saladin drove the Franks from all their possessions save Antioch, Tripolis, and Tyre. Robert, probably son of Thomas, was Constable of Antioch in 1210 and 1216. Another Mansel is recorded as having been severely wounded and taken prisoner by the Sultan Beibars in 1277, and is described as nephew to Bartholomew, Bishop of Tortosa (in Syria). This Bishop Bartholomew may very probably have been a Mansel, as it was the almost universal practice at that time to allude to high ecclesiastics by their titles rather than their surnames.

The subject is an interesting one, and it is to be regretted that space does not admit of enlarging upon it in the present volume.

It must be admitted, however, that these records tend to discredit the early pedigree in respect of Sir Robert and his issue. "Thomas, son of Robert," who was of responsible age in 1175, could not have been the son of Sir Robert in the pedigree, even if the latter had been married much earlier than the approximate date therein mentioned. William of Tyre, it will be recollected, alludes to Sir Robert as "a knight from Wales"; probably this crusader

was distinct from Robert of the pedigree, or possibly the latter is wrongly included. There does not appear to be any record of Mansels in Syria later than the thirteenth century.

Since the first chapter of the present volume was printed, the death has occurred of Miss Emily Charlotte Talbot, the possessor of the Margam and Penrice estates. She died on September 21, 1918, at the age of seventy-eight, at her town house, 3, Cavendish Square, and was buried on the 26th in the family vault in Margam church.

Miss Talbot was reputed the wealthiest woman in England; very probably this was the case, and the fact of her great riches was sufficient in itself to draw attention to her when her death was announced.

The possession of inherited wealth entails responsibilities proportional to its magnitude, and Miss Talbot fully realised her obligations in this respect. She administered her huge estates wisely and well, displaying great business capacity and beneficence towards her tenants and dependents. The following extract from an obituary notice in the press is of interest :

"One of the wealthiest women in Great Britain, her great gifts to benevolent, educational, and religious purposes were often anonymous, and few knew what a large portion of her riches she devoted to the needs of others, particularly in South Wales, of which she was the true Lady Bountiful. During the last two years, owing to failing health, she was unable to spend much time in the Principality, but lived in quiet and retirement in London, only seeing her intimate friends. Despite her indisposition, she took a deep interest in war charities, providing two large Y.M.C.A. huts in Glamorgan, and converting Penrice Castle into an officers' hospital, which she equipped and maintained at her own expense. Only recently she provided a capital sum sufficient to produce £1,500 a year for a chair of preventive medicine at the medical school in connection with Cardiff University. . . . To the Church, too, she was a queenly benefactress, and her name was a household word in Wales. . . . She combined with a benevolent spirit a rare business aptitude, and to her foresight and energy may be largely attributed the development and prosperity of Port Talbot from a small village to a thriving town possessing docks, steel works, and important railway junctions. In the welfare of the folk dependent on her she took the deepest interest, and on one occasion, an unremunerative colliery falling into her hands, she, rather than discharge the miners and close it down, kept it working for several years for the sake of the women and children, at a loss to herself of nearly £100,000."

Miss Talbot spent the greater part of her time upon her Welsh

estates ; before the war she was accustomed to give herself a holiday from the laborious administration of these by a visit to the Riviera in the spring.

By the provisions of Miss Talbot's will, the Penrice estate is settled upon her niece, Lady Blythwood, her husband and issue ; and the Margam estates and contents of Margam Abbey, after provision for legacies to nieces (amounting to about £168,000), and death duties, are settled upon trusts primarily for the benefit of her nephew, Captain Andrew Mansel Talbot Fletcher, his wife and issue. Captain Fletcher is the only son of John Fletcher, of Saltoun Hall, Haddingtonshire, out of a family of eight.

It has been suggested to the present writer that Gabriel Ogilvy, in his French pedigree, which was discussed at length in the first volume, was justified in maintaining that "Richard Cenomannicus," who gave lands in 1088 to the Priory of Brecknock, bore the surname of Mansel, and that some injustice has consequently been done to him.¹

This suggestion is based upon the fact—which certainly escaped notice in the first volume—that the old Roman name for Maine or Le Mans was Cenomannum, and that Cenomannicus would signify a man of Le Mans, or of Maine—*i.e.*, a *Mansel*, in the sense implied in the Roman de Rou.²

This may be very true ; but it does not justify Ogilvy in his assumption. He gives as reference "*Monasticon Anglicanum*," and, as has already been pointed out, the benefactor of the priory is alluded to, both in the text and in the index, simply as "*Richardus Cenomannicus*," *i.e.*, Richard, a man of Maine or of Le Mans. Ogilvy has added the prefix "*Mansellus*," which would be superfluous otherwise than as the surname Mansel ; but his own reference contradicts the assumption, as "*Mansellus*" does not occur in "*Monasticon*" ; the view which was expressed concerning this column of Ogilvy's pedigree must therefore be maintained.³

In the great war of 1914-1918 many members of the Maunsell-

¹ See vol. i., p. 61 ; and Appendix I., second column.

² *Ibid.*, p. 10.

³ It may be noted, further, that in Latin dictionaries of repute (White and Ridley, Lewis and Short) *Cenomani* are described as Celtic peoples of Cis-alpine Gaul ; *i.e.*, of North Italy between the Alps and the Apennines ; France and Belgium, with parts of Holland, Germany, and Switzerland, constituted *Gallia Transalpina* (Encycl. Brit.). This is in conflict with the "*Dictionnaire Universelle de Trevoux*," in which *Cenomannum* is given as the ancient name of Maine or Le Mans ; it does not, however, affect the question of Ogilvy's unwarrantable addition of "*Mansellus*."

Mansel family took an active part, and bore themselves manfully ; it is therefore suitable and proper that their names and deeds should be recorded in this volume, and Chapter XIV. is devoted to this purpose.

I cannot close this preface without some allusion to my association, in the long and interesting work, with Colonel Charles Albert Maunsell, R.A.M.C., the prime mover in the compilation of this family record.

This association has been to me a source of unmingled pleasure and satisfaction. Colonel Maunsell's unvarying courtesy and kindness, his generous—I would almost say too generous—appreciation of my work, his ready and cordial acceptance of my suggestions at our numerous conferences, all have combined to afford me most pleasing reminiscences, and the present enjoyment of a delightful friendship.

Colonel Maunsell's diligent and exhaustive investigation of records during a number of years produced a mass of matter almost bewildering in its amplitude, the sifting of which was no light task ; with his able assistance, however, this has been successfully accomplished, and each detail appropriated to its place in the history.

E. P. S.

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PEDIGREE OF MANSELLS OF DORSET - - - - -	430
SOMERSET MAUNSELLS - - - - -	435
PHILIP MAUNSELL = - - - - -	442

CHAPTER I

Barons Mansel of Margam

THOUGH much space has already been devoted to the Mansels of Wales, and in particular to Sir Rhys and Sir Robert, who figure so prominently among them, there is yet a great deal to be said about them, and it will now be convenient to continue the account of the family and immediate descendants of Sir Edward Mansel.

Sir Robert Mansel's life and death brought the record up to the year 1656; it will now be necessary to retrace our steps to the commencement of the seventeenth century.

Thomas Mansel, eldest son of Sir Edward, must have been considerably older than Robert, who has been reckoned as sixth son; but the date of his birth does not appear to be recorded. It may be assumed, however, that he was born not later than about 1561, as his marriage with Mary, daughter of Lewis, third Lord Mordaunt, is recorded in the Register at Chelsea parish church July 30, 1582.¹

He was knighted before 1593,² and was created baronet May 22, 1611, being third in precedence of the first batch of baronets created on the institution of that order by King James I.³

¹ Lewis, third Lord Mordaunt, was born in 1558, and was knighted in 1568, succeeding to the title on the death of his father, John Lord Mordaunt, in 1571. In the following year he was one of the peers who sat at the trial of Thomas Howard, fourth Duke of Norfolk. Subsequently, in 1586, he was one of the twenty-four noblemen assembled at Fotheringhay Castle for the trial of Mary Queen of Scots. He died June 16, 1601, and was buried at Turvey, Beds, the ancient holding of the Mordaunts.

² In 1591, according to Sylvanus Morgan: "Sphere of Gentry," Bk. iii., p. 91.

³ Sir Nicholas Bacon, of Redgrave, Suffolk (brother-in-law to Sir Robert Mansel), was first in precedence, Sir Richard Molyneux, of Serton, Lancs, the second; eighteen were created at this date. The institution of some such order, intermediate between baron and knight, had been suggested to the king by Lord Bacon some five years previously, in connection with what was termed the "plantation" of Ulster—"knighthood with some new differences and

Sir Thomas was sheriff of Glamorganshire, 1593-1594, 1603-1604, and 1622-1623, and was for many years a justice of the peace in that county.

He was well known at court, as was his father, Sir Edward, and was apparently intimate with the ill-fated Sir Thomas Overbury, the *alter ego* and subsequent victim of the king's favourite, Robert Carr, Earl of Somerset; for when, two years after Overbury's murder, Sir Dudley Digges was being examined as to his knowledge of certain events in that connection, he said that "on expressing to Sir Henry Neville his fear that Rochester (Carr was then Viscount Rochester) was desirous to be rid of Overbury, both he and Sir Thomas Mansell told him, from Overbury's own mouth, that he was confident Rochester would not dare to abandon him."¹

Confidence which was most grievously misplaced! It is remarkable what a number of men about the court were suspected of being involved in this tragedy, or were called upon to give evidence in the matter. Probably they had all been very anxious to be on good terms with Carr, when he became a pet of King James, not reckoning that the handsome lad would develop into an adulterer and a murderer of the most callous type; and would, moreover, eventually be found out.

In the year 1626 Sir Thomas Mansel found himself in the unpleasant position of being trounced by the Council for alleged hindrance of the measures and regulations issued by that very jealous and autocratic board. His letter of explanation is illustrative of the mutual relations between the Council and the local authorities at that period; he writes as follows:

precedence; it may no doubt work with many." That is to say, it might "work" so as to bring in some aid towards the "plantation"; and in this spirit the order of baronet was eventually instituted, the condition of the grant being that each candidate for the honour should pay for the maintenance of thirty soldiers in Ulster for three years, at eightpence per head *per diem*, the amount for one whole year (£375) being paid at once; so the new baronets had each to contribute £1.095 for the title. The Bacon family naturally came first in precedence, Lord Bacon having originated the idea of the new honour. See "Notes and Queries," Third Series, vol. xii., p. 168; "Display of Heraldry," Jno. Guillim, p. 177; "Complete Baronetage," by G. E. C., vol. i., p. 4.

¹ Cal. State Papers, Dom., 1611-1618; p. 325. Sir Robert Mansel was also a friend of Overbury. See Trial of Robert Carr, Earl of Somerset, in Hargrave's State Trials, vol. i.



MARY, DAUGHTER OF LEWIS, 3rd LORD MORDAUNT,
WIFE OF SIR THOMAS, 1st BARONET OF MARGAM

" Right honourable my very good Lords : by letters of the fifth of May last from your Lordships unto me directed I find that Matthew Thomas, Portreeve¹ of the town of Swansea in this county of Glamorgan, was convented before your Lordships for his respectless and undutiful carriage in hindering the execution of the directions of the honourable Board, and hath sought to excuse himself by imputing the cause thereof unto me ; whereupon your Lordships thought good to signify so much unto me, and withal to will and require me hereafter on all occasions to carry myself in such sort as may stand with my duty to the authority of that honourable table.

" My honourable Lords, I find myself much bounden unto your honours for the admonition given me to have respect to the authority of that honourable Board, and I desire no longer to live than that I should most dutifully and respectively (*sic*) do so ; though Mr. Matthew Thomas layeth the imputation thereof upon me, in which he wronged both himself and me : for both he and myself, with my son, did perform the execution of the service from that honourable table presently upon receipt of your Lordships' letters of the last of December, and after the Justices of this county had perused them, I sent them presently unto the said Justices. And because I was Steward under my very good Lord the Earl of Worcester, Lord Privy Seal, of the honour of Gower, whereof Swansea is the chief state, I required the Portreeve to send me the names of some persons of the fittest and of good ability to have a license for selling of beer and ale, being a port and market town of some consequence : the which when he did, in that I was then troubled with the stone, I sent my son Lewis to join with the Portreeve, who executed the service, then commanded the warrants to be made to me and my son, and by reason of my absence I sent by my clerk that the Portreeve should put his hand with my son's, the which he did, as Portreeve, not as Justice, as by their license may appear. I most humbly desire pardon for my boldness in thus advising your Lordships herewith, being it did much trouble me that having been a Justice of the Peace these six and twenty years I did always my best endeavours to the uttermost of my power to fulfil all directions and commandments of His Majesty and such as came from that honourable Board as from His Highness himself, without any complaint or information ; and now in mine old age to be complained on. I hope your honourable Lordships will not be offended with me to make manifest the truth of the business whereof I have been accused to be the cause of hindering your Lordships' directions, being not able for my debility of

¹ Portreeve, a municipal office, at one time equivalent to that of mayor, but later more of the nature of town-bailiff.

body to come in person before your honours to testify the same, which I humbly refer to your honours' most just and great consideration.

"Thus with my most humble duty I take leave and ever remain

"Your Lordships' most humbly to be commanded,

"THOS. MANSELL.

"MARGAM, 10th July, 1626." ¹

The impression conveyed hereby is that there was a good deal of unnecessary fuss about a trivial matter: but the Council was nothing if not fussy.

In 1628 Sir Thomas Mansel and Sir John Stradling were called upon to investigate a charge against two sailors, who it was alleged had spread a report that the king was dead, poisoned by the Duke (of Buckingham?—an unlikely story).² This was the year in which the famous "Petition of Rights" was presented: one of the complaints embodied therein was: "That certain persons had been empowered, by Royal Commissions, to punish by the summary process of martial law offences committed by soldiers, mariners, and persons connected with them, though such offences ought to have been dealt with in the usual courts of law."

Perhaps in the case of these seamen the wish was father to the thought; King Charles's unconstitutional and tyrannical proceedings had already evoked almost universal resentment, the development of which, culminating in the Great Rebellion, will be dealt with in a subsequent chapter, together with the part played by the Mansels in this connection.

In September, 1629, Sir Thomas was concerned in a dispute about a vessel which was driven on shore at Oystermouth. Apparently this ship was in reality a pirate, but this was not in the first instance recognised. Oystermouth is, of course, in Gower, and Mansel claimed rights on behalf of Henry, Earl of Worcester, while William Herbert of Swansea claimed for the king. The case was referred by the Council to the Admiralty Court, September 26, 1629,

¹ State Papers, Dom., Charles I. Vol. xxix, no. 44.

² Cal. State Papers, Dom., 1628-1629; p. 272.

but apparently hung fire for many months. On December 14, 1630, William Herbert and others, writing to Philip (Herbert), Earl of Pembroke and Montgomery, say that a messenger from Sir Thomas Mansel gave an assurance that Sir Thomas had submitted himself to the earl; but Mansel and his supporters would not admit any such submission. William Herbert sends a number of depositions on the matter. The chief offenders, they say, are Henry Mansel, Matthew Francklyn, and Rowland Vaughan. Henry was fourth son of Sir Thomas. It is stated in the brief on behalf of the king that "after the ship had been taken possession of by Thomas and Henry Mansel, the latter examined the captain as to his papers. He denied that he had any, save some of little importance which had been given up. Bartholomew Bullinger, a passenger, advised a search under the capstan, which was accordingly taken up, and 'searching the sole thereof, they discovered therein a hollowness, wherein they found a white latten box with divers writings'; which being shewn to the captain, he was very pensive and wept, and exclaimed against his company for discovering the same."¹

The final decision of the Court of Admiralty does not appear in the Calendar of State Papers; but it would seem that Mansel was in a fair way to lose his case, despite the diligence of his search, and the "crocodile" tears of the pirate captain.

Sir Thomas died December 20, 1631, and was buried at Margam.

Sir Lewis, his eldest son, who succeeded as second baronet, was not prominent as a soldier or courtier. He matriculated at Oxford, January 30, 1600, aged sixteen, and was admitted to Lincoln's Inn, February 5, 1603, and knighted on July 23 of the same year.²

Mr. G. T. Clark says of him: "He was an Oxford man, of studious habits, and increased his knowledge by foreign travel. It is recorded of him that he was a valiant soldier, though of a peaceable

¹ Cal. State Papers, Dom., 1629-1631; pp. 52, 408, 409, 495.

² "Complete Baronetage," by G. E. C. Vol. i, p. 4.

6 THE MAUNSELL (MANSEL) FAMILY

turn of mind, a kind husband and father, a patron of the liberal arts, and exceedingly charitable to the poor."¹

It is stated by Anthony Wood that Sir Lewis gave £50 per annum for several years towards the completion of the library at Jesus College, Oxford; his first cousin, Dr. Francis Mansel, was principal of the college, and was exceedingly zealous in respect of the maintenance and improvement of the various buildings—of whom more hereafter.²

Sir Lewis Mansel was thrice married; his first wife was Lady Katherine Sidney, second daughter of Robert Sidney, Viscount Lisle, created Earl of Leicester on August 2, 1618, by Barbara Gamage, daughter and heir of John Gamage, of Coity, Glamorgan. This Barbara was a lady of some importance, by reason of her lineage—she was a descendant of Sir Payne Turberville, one of Robert Fitzhamon's twelve knights who took part in the conquest of Glamorgan—and also of her riches, for she was one of the wealthiest heiresses of that time. Her guardian was Sir Edward Stradling, of St. Donat's Castle; but Queen Elizabeth, after the manner of monarchs at that period, was determined to have her say concerning the marriage of Barbara, and it is said that, some rumour of her engagement to Robert Sidney having reached the court, the queen sent an intimation, through Sir Walter Raleigh, that no marriage was to take place without her royal approval and consent. The young people, however, resenting this peremptory interference with their plans, and encouraged by the Earl and Countess of Pembroke, were united, *malgré* Good Queen Bess, on September 23, 1584, at

¹ Arch. Camb., Third Series; vol. x., p. 120.

Sir Lewis Mansel appears to have presented or sold to one Dr. John Davies, in 1634, a curious and valuable MS. entitled "The Red Book of Hergest." Dr. Davies (1570-1641) was a clergyman, a scholar, and lexiconographer of some repute. The manuscript takes its name from Hergest Court, a seat of the Vaughans, near Knighton, Radnor, and was probably compiled for them. Dr. Davies left it to Thomas Wilkins of Llanbethan, who in 1701 presented it to Jesus College, Oxford, where it now remains. It is a thick folio of three hundred and sixty leaves of vellum; the contents consist almost entirely of poems. Dr. Davies was four years at Jesus College, and Sir Lewis Mansel, as here stated, contributed for some years towards the building fund. Welshmen were, indeed, especially interested in this college, hence the ultimate bestowal of the book; how it came into the hands of Sir Lewis Mansel does not appear. (See "The Four Ancient Books of Wales," by William F. Stene, vol. ii., p. 423.)

² "History of the Colleges of Oxford," by Anthony Wood (1786); p. 580.

St. Donat's Castle—and a few hours later there arrived a messenger with the royal veto on the marriage, and orders that Robert Sidney should return to London forthwith. One cannot help sympathising with Sidney and his bride; these royal interferences with the marriages of heiresses appear so gratuitous and unnecessary; and there was, of course, some mercenary motive in the background.¹

The Hon. Mary Sidney, in a pamphlet entitled "Historical Guide to Penshurst Place"—the Sidneys' mansion in Kent—tells us that Barbara Gamage, "though possessed of an exacting disposition and somewhat shrewish temper, was really a devoted wife and mother and a clever and capable woman." She appears, indeed, to have had some fame as a housewife, for Ben Jonson, the poet, in his "Ode on Penshurst," enthusiastically commends her from this point of view.

Such was the mother of Lady Katherine, who married Sir Lewis Mansel. Katherine herself appears as a child to have attracted the favourable notice of Queen Elizabeth: "My Lady Huntingdon says that the Queen often speaks of the children, and said she never saw any child come towards her with a better grace than Mrs. Katherine did."

The date of the marriage of Sir Lewis and Lady Katherine does not appear to be precisely recorded; the fact of the marriage is mentioned in Hasted's "History of Kent." Mr. R. G. Maunsell states that it took place "about 1600"; this seems full early, since

¹ In connection with this episode, the following letter is of interest; it is given in the "Stradling Correspondence," by J. M. Trakernes, p. 22. The English is here modernised.

"Sir Edward, Her Majesty hath now thrice caused letters to be written unto you, that you suffer not my kinswoman to be bought and sold in Wales, without Her Majesty's privity, and the consent or advice of my Lord Chamberlain and myself, her rather's cousin german. Considering she hath not any nearer kin nor better; her father and myself came of two sisters, Sir Philip Champernowne's daughters; I doubt not but, all other persuasion set apart, you will satisfy her Highness, and withal do us that courtesy as to acquaint us with her matching. If you desire any match for her of your own kin, if you acquaint us withal, you shall find us ready to yield to any reason. I hope, Sir, you will deal herein most advisedly; and herein you shall ever find us ready to requite you in all thing, to our power. And so with my very hearty commendations I end. In haste. From the Court, the 26th of September 1584. Your most willing friend, W. Raleigh."

Barbara had been married three days previously. (Sir Walter Raleigh, born in 1552, was the fourth son of Walter Raleigh, who married Catherine, daughter of Sir Philip Champernowne of Modbury, Devon.)

8 THE MAUNSELL (MANSEL) FAMILY

Sidney's marriage occurred in September, 1584; Katherine was not the eldest of his family, and so could not have been more than fourteen in that year, probably younger, while Lewis, according to the University record, was then only sixteen; but child marriages were only too prevalent in those days. There was no issue of this marriage.¹

Lady Mansel died at Baynard's Castle on May 8, and was buried at Penshurst May 13, 1610. Baynard's Castle was of Norman origin; it was situated beyond Blackfriars Bridge, immediately below St. Paul's Cathedral, and was the scene of many meetings and incidents. It was burned down in 1428, but was rebuilt by Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester. It was made a royal residence by Henry VI., after Gloucester's death, and was made use of by Richard III. in some of his murderous intrigues. Henry VIII. expended large sums in converting the building from a fortress into a palace. Eventually it came into the possession of the Earls of Pembroke, and hence Lady Mansel, their relative by marriage, died there. Baynard's Castle was destroyed in the great fire of 1666.²

From the accounts kept by the Earl of Leicester's steward, we learn that the marriage portion of Lady Katherine was £3,000; in order to make up this sum £1,000 was borrowed upon plate and jewels; and at her death her father expended £1000 on her funeral and the embalming of her body.³

By his second marriage, with Katherine, daughter of Sir Edward Lewis, Senior, of Van, Sir Lewis had only two daughters; by his third, with Lady Elizabeth, daughter of

¹ The Sidney coat-of-arms is, or, a pheon azure. The "pheon" is an arrowhead; and Lady Mary Sidney relates that when Henry Sidney—son of Robert, second Earl of Leicester, and afterwards Earl of Romney—was Master of the Ordnance, in 1693, finding that there was no mark by which government stores could be distinguished, instituted the pheon, or "broad arrow," as a label. This mark, as is well known, remains to the present day, and may be seen upon government stores of every description, ordnance boundary stones, etc., and likewise upon the dress worn by convicts in Portland Prison and elsewhere.

Sir Philip Sidney, the poet and statesman, in a sonnet to Love ("Astrophel and Stella," No. 65), indulges in a play upon this coat-of-arms—

"That I perhaps am somewhat kinne to thee;
Since in thine armes, if leaſt ſhould fame truth hath ſpread,
Thou beaſt the arrow, I the arrowhead."

² "Old and New London," by Walter Thornbury; vol. i., p. 281 et seq.

³ "Antiquarian Repertory," vol. i., pp. 285, 286, 290.



SIR LEWIS MANSEL, 2nd BARONET OF MARGAM.

Died 4 April, 1938.

Henry Montague, Earl of Manchester,¹ however, he had male issue.

The Earl of Manchester resided for several years at Totteridge—about ten miles north of London, bordering upon Hendon and Finchley—where most of his children by his first marriage were born; and here, in the church register, is recorded the marriage of Elizabeth with Sir Lewis Mansel, August 15, 1627.²

Sir Lewis only held the title for seven years, dying in 1638; he was succeeded by his son Henry, then seven years of age, who, however, died soon after his father, the title passing to Edward, second son—then but little over one year of age.³ Henry has been ignored in some records; Mr. R. G. Maunsell (p. 24) inserts his name, but places him as younger than Edward; he is vouched for, however, by "G. E. C." and by the Inquisition Post Mortem upon Sir Lewis; Sir Edward must therefore be placed as fourth baronet, instead of third, as in some genealogies.⁴

¹ Henry Montague, first Baron Montagu of Boughton (Northants); Baron Montagu of Kimbleton (Hants); Viscount Mandeville, created Earl of Manchester February 5, 1626. Elizabeth was his eldest daughter by his first marriage, by which he had three daughters, and by his third marriage two. Burke only mentions one daughter, Susan, by the third marriage, who married George Bridger, sixth Lord Chandos. "Complete Peerage," Vol. v., p. 206. Burke's Peerage, under Manchester.

² Lysons' "Environs of London," Vol. iv., p. 46.

³ "Complete Baronetage," by G. E. C. Vol. i., p. 4. Inquisition Post Mortem, Cowlridge, Glamorgan, August 9, 1638 (Charles I., vol. 570, no. 137). (See *The Genealogist*, Vol. xxxii., p. 67).

There is further evidence concerning Henry, son and heir to Sir Lewis, in the Margam Abbey MSS. "15 Nov., 1638. Bond of Elizabeth Lady Mansel, of Margam, Edward Viscount Mandeville (brother to Lady Mansel) and Robert Dixon of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, to the King, in £500, for payment to the Receiver-General of the Court of Wards and Liveries, for the fine of the Custody, Wardship, and Marriage of Henry Mansel, Barr., son and heir of Sir Lewis Mansel, Knt. and Barr." (Penrice and Margam MSS., Second Series, p. 28, no. 630.)

"Royal Grant by Charles I., King of England, to Elizabeth Lady Mansel, widow, of an annuity of twenty shillings, in co. Glamorgan, from lands belonging to the late Sir Lewis Mansel, Knt. and Barr., and custody of the body and marriage of Henry Mansel, Barr., his son, now a ward, etc., without rendering accounts." (*Ibid.*, p. 29, no. 632.)

⁴ Sir Lewis Mansel's elder daughter, Elizabeth, by his third marriage, married Sir William Wiseman, of Riverhill, Essex, created baronet June 15, 1660, died June, 1688, when the title became extinct, he having had only one daughter, Elizabeth, who married John Limotte Heywood, of Marshall, Essex, and secondly Sir Isaac Rebow. Lady Wiseman died about 1707.

Mary, the younger daughter, married, August 16, 1655, Sir William Leman, Bart., of

It was during the lifetime of Sir Edward that Thomas Dineley, travelling in the train of the Duke of Beaufort during his progress through Wales and the Marches, in 1684, visited Margam Abbey, of which he gives some account, as also of the entertainment afforded to the duke and his followers.¹

"Saturday August 16 towards the evening the Duke of Beaufort accompanied with the Earl of Worcester, Sir John Talbot, and a numerous train of gentry, where having come to Margam in Glamorganshire, the Capital seat of the Mansells, where having received the compliments of Sir Edward Mansell and his son, his Grace and company were conducted by them to his summer banqueting house, built after the Italian, where regular symmetry, excellent sculpture, delicate graving and an infinity of good Dutch and other paintings make a lustre not to be imagined. The pavements are of marbles, black, red, mixed, and white, chiefly the product of his own quarries in lands in this county. There nothing was spared that this noble place could afford of diversion : hence his Grace was entertained with the pastime of seeing a brace of bucks run down by three footmen, which were afterwards led into Margam antecourt alive, and there judged fit for the table before the huntsman gave the fatal stroke with his scimitar. . . . This chase ended, and his Grace and company returned to the house, we found several tables spread with splendid services of fish, flesh, dessert, and a variety of wines, an open house for all.

"The next morning, August 17. His Grace and the Earl of Worcester were attended by Sir Edward Mansel and all the gentry there to Margam Church, where Divine Service being ended a learned and loyal sermon was preached by the reverend . . . Margam is a very noble seat ; it appears by some noble ruins about it to have been formed out of an ancient Religious House ; the modern additions are very stately, of which the stables are of freestone with fair standings capable of . . . horses ; the roof being ceiled and adorned

Nin Hall, Northall, Hertford ; he succeeded to the baronetcy in September, 1667, and died July 18, 1701. She died April 27, 1722. They had a son, Mansel Leman, who died *etatis patriæ*. Sir John Leman, grandfather of Sir William, was Lord Mayor of London, 1616-17 ; there is a Leman Street in Stepney, probably named after him, and Mansel Street, running parallel to it, named after Mansel Leman, or perhaps after Mary Mansel, wife of Sir William.

¹ Henry Somerset succeeded his father, Edward, as third Marquess of Worcester in 1667, and was created Duke of Beaufort December 2, 1682. He was nephew to Lady Jane Somerset, who married Sir Edward Mansel. He made his "progress" as President of Wales. Thomas Dineley (or more properly Dineley) was son of Thomas Dineley, Controller of Customs at Southampton. He made several tours on the Continent and in Ireland, and his MS. notes of his travels, with spirited pen-and-ink sketches, are highly valued by antiquarians.

with cornishes and fret-work of goodly artifice. The arms over the entrance into the new stables as in the margin set forth.¹ An ancient Gate-house before the court of the house remains unaltered because of an old Prophesie among the Bards thus concerning it and this family, viz., that as soon as this Porch or Gate-house shall be pulled down this family shall decline and go to decay. Its situation is among excellent springs, furnishing all the offices thereof with excellent water, at the foot of prodigious high hills of woods, shelter for the deer, about a mile distant from an arm of the sea parting this shire and the county of Cornwall in England.² Below which, and washed almost round with the salt water, is a marsh whereto the deer (the tides being low) resort much by swimming, and thrive to such an extraordinary weight and fatness as I never saw or heard the like, unless in the Kingdom of Ireland, in a superscription upon the bedchamber door of the Rt Honble Henry Earl of Thomond in his Lodge of Deer Island in the county of Clare, where are these remarks thus dated—ANN DNI MDCLVI a Hare was then cropt and turned on Deer Island, and in A° MDCLXXIII the said noble Earl was at the death of the same hare there. Again: A° DOMINI MDCLXXII. A Buck was killed there by the same noble Earl weighing XVI stone and II pounds. To this I may add myself as a witness to the death of another in the hunting season of the year 1681, when one fell before us upon the place in weight 15 stone and an half; yet many of these deer quit the island, and as many in the time of chase are frightened over again from the county of Clare; even as here part of Sir Edward Mansel's herds leave the parks for the marsh, and the marsh for the park by swimming the salt water; according to Horace—'Et Superjecto pavidæ Natarunt Æquore damæ.'

¹ Mansel impaled with Carne; *i.e.*, Gules, a pelican with wings displayed feeding her young, or. (Burke's "General Armory.") The first Sir Edward's daughter, Anne, as shown in the pedigree, married Edward Carne of Nash; and this present Sir Edward married Martha, daughter of Edward Carne, of Ewenny, by his second wife. There is some account of this Edward Carne in "Ewenny Priory," by Colonel I. P. Turbervill, who says: "Edward Carne would seem to have been born under some malignant star. His short life was darkened by bereavement at home and constant ill-fortune abroad, his death sudden and untimely. . . . Before he had even come of age he was pricked as High Sheriff at a time when the great Civil War was still raging, and his position forced him to take an active part in the strife." After Naseby, Carne declared for the Royalists, and met the king, with a large assemblage, in Wales. Subsequently he led a spirited assault upon the town and castle of Cardiff, which was, however, ultimately unsuccessful owing to the arrival of strong reinforcements for the Parliamentarians. Carne was imprisoned at Cardiff, and fined £1,000 as a penalty for "malignancy." He died in 1650. Martha, who married Sir Edward Mansel, was a posthumous child.

² Thomas Dineley is somewhat wild in his geography for such a travelled person; Margam is, in fact, opposite the north-west portion of Somerset.

(Dineley is profusely addicted to appropriate classical illustrations of his narrative; the above shall suffice as a sample.)

The "summer banqueting house" alluded to by Dineley would appear to have been distinct from the mansion. This latter was erected by Sir Rhys Mansel some twelve or fifteen years after he became possessed of the estate. It was a long, low, nondescript sort of building, constructed in part from the stones of the Abbey, and incorporating some portions of the latter; it was probably quite devoid of any architectural merit.

One of the most remarkable objects in Margam Park is the huge orangery. Tradition traces the origin of this unusual adjunct of a modern estate to the wreck of a Dutch vessel which was conveying a large number of choice orange-trees, etc., as a gift from a Dutch merchant to Mary, consort of William III. The ship being cast up within the wreckage claim of Margam, the cargo was seized as the legal property of the lord of Margam, and a large house, one hundred and fifty feet in length, was built for the accommodation of the orange-trees, then, no doubt, of small size. However, they flourished, and in 1787 Thomas Mansel Talbot built a huge structure, three hundred and twenty-seven feet in length, and later an annex one hundred and fifty feet long; and there these exotics—orange, lemon, citron, pomegranate, all strangers in the land—have grown and fruited ever since. They are planted in large boxes, so as to be capable of removal to the outer air in summer; many of them are fine trees standing twenty or thirty feet in height.¹

¹ Among the archives at Margam Abbey there are some details in connection with the cost of the construction of the great greenhouse:

"An account of what the building of a new greenhouse will come to at the usual rate in this county, computed by Joseph Kirkman, gardener, Edward Harries, carpenter, etc. Margam, 26 March, 1725." (No. 2397.)

"Affidavit of Joseph Hickman (sic) chief gardener to Thomas, late Lord Mansel and the Hon. Bussy Mansel, with estimate of the cost of building a new greenhouse at Margam. 3 May, 1725." (No. 3522.)

"An inventory of the greenhouse plants now in Margam Garden, 'and are in perfect health, and full of fruit and beautiful in their leaves as near as can be: the sizes and stature of every sort of tree given per me Joseph Kirkman gardener at Margam this sixteen year and half.' 3 July, 1727." (No. 3557.) See "Penrice and Margam MSS." Series IV., pt. ii., pp. 35, 47.

The original MSS. are not accessible for this present work; it would have added to the interest of these summaries had the editor of the documents stated the amount of the estimate, which must be given in the original.

The present mansion was built by Christopher Rice Mansel Talbot, Esq., about the year 1832. (The acquisition of the estate by the Talbots is fully dealt with further on.)

In Margam Church there are many elaborate and interesting monuments to members of the Mansel family, which are described at great length by Thomas Dineley, with numerous pen-and-ink illustrations, and shields of arms, which are reproduced in this volume, together with copies of the various inscriptions, recently made for insertion in these pages. Dineley is not always reliable in his transcriptions, having been probably compelled in many instances to make them hurriedly, with one eye on the movements of the Duke of Beaufort.

The Calendar of State Papers contains many references to Sir Edward Mansel, illustrative of his local importance and activity in various affairs, as well as minor incidents of his life.

On December 4, 1655, a pass was granted for Sir Edward and four servants to go to France, and in March of the following year he had permission to take six horses over.¹ In March, 1658, he appears to have been seized on suspicion in Westminster during a search—"for medicines," presumably—and confined at the "Bear" in Kent Street until he could prove his identity, or his innocence; he was released, and his horse restored to him, by order of the Council on March 25.²

In 1660 there is a grant to Sir Edward Mansel, Bart., and Arthur Mansel, in reversion after Edward Earl of Manchester, of the office of Chamberlain and Chancellor of counties Carmarthen, Pembroke, and Cardigan, and Steward of the Honour of Pembroke, and manor of Penkelly, county Brecon.³

In a letter, dated August 5, 1666, from John Man to Secretary Williamson, occurs the following: "The Glamorganshire volunteer troops have met for the first time, and make a handsome appearance; eighty enlisted themselves under Sir Edward Mansel, Bart., of

¹ Cal. State Papers, Dom., 1655-1656; pp. 576, 579.

² *Ibid.*, 1657-1658; p. 344.

³ *Ibid.*, 1660-1661; p. 368. Edward (Montague), Earl of Manchester, was uncle to Sir Edward Mansel.

Margam, a person of great interest and integrity in those parts, and declared themselves ready to venture all for king and country." ¹

In another letter John Man states that " Sir Edward Mansel, Bart., of Margam, has been chosen a Knight of the Shire for county Glamorgan, without any opposition, in place of Lord Herbert, called to the House of Peers by the death of his father, the Earl of Pembroke." ²

In the year 1672 King Charles II., for various reasons of his own, among which it is said that the promise of money from Louis XIV. of France figured largely, was at some pains in picking a quarrel with Holland, and eventually succeeded in his object; war was declared upon Holland by Charles on the 19th, and by Louis on the 27th March.

On such an occasion men were, of course, required for the navy, and they were obtained, for the most part, by the summary process of impressment—a process which frequently involved considerable cruelty, but was nevertheless recognised as a necessary evil.

Men being required for the *Holmes*, frigate, lying in Milford Haven, Sir Edward Mansel, vice-admiral of South Wales, received orders to put the press-gang in operation. Two hundred men were requisitioned on April 15, and on the 29th John Man reports to Secretary Williamson: " Yesterday 100 pressed men went hence towards Milford, where 100 more are ready, all able seamen, who with much industry were impressed by Sir Edward Mansel, Vice Admiral, in his precincts." ³

On May 16, Man again writes: " There are about fifty pressed last week and this, to go on board a vessel at Newton, about twelve miles off, to be sent to Bristol, and more are daily pressing by the carefulness of Sir Edward Mansell." ⁴

¹ Cal. State Papers, Dom., 1666-1667; p. 13. John Man was Collector for the port of Swansea.

² *Ibid.*, 1670; p. 108.

³ *Ibid.*, 1672; pp. 394, 583.

⁴ *Ibid.*, 1672; pp. 394, 583.

In due course the *Holmes*—probably named after Sir Robert Holmes, admiral, and governor of the Isle of Wight—and the remainder of the fleet received their complement of men; and there was a naval battle off Southwold, on the Suffolk coast. The Duke of York, lord high admiral, was in command of the English and French fleets. Owing to a lack of foresight on the part of the English commander-in-chief, and his neglect of some very sound advice offered by Lord Sandwich, his second in command, the allied fleet was taken somewhat at a disadvantage; and the French admiral not displaying much enterprise or initiative, what should certainly have proved a victory for the allies, who were in considerably stronger force, was converted into a drawn battle.

Sir Edward, writing to Secretary Williamson, January 18, 1677, assures him "that none would have been more concerned, had they heard of his recent indisposition, nor exceed the writer in rejoicing at his recovery"; adding "that the notice he takes of a 'mountainous Welshman' justly claims the return of his humble thanks."

Mr. John Man, in his letters to the Secretary of State, loses no opportunity of praising Sir Edward; on one occasion he writes: "Last Tuesday there met two companies of the militia in this town—the rest are to appear this week in other parts of the county, the whole being commanded by Sir Edward Mansel, a person of great worth and integrity both to his Majesty and the country, who takes all imaginable care for the good appearance of the militia."¹

In a letter from William Morgan of Tredegar to Secretary Williamson appears the following: "Your most kind favour by the hackney man. Met your friend Sir Edward Mansel at my house, where you were not forgot, and when we received your letter, it cost me at least half-a-dozen bottles in my cellar."²

The fifth baronet, Sir Thomas Mansel, was a man of considerable prominence, and held various offices of importance at court, etc. He was sheriff of Glamorgan 1700-1701; M.P. for Cardiff, 1689-1698, and for Glamorgan (in six Parliaments), 1699-1712;

¹ Cal. State Papers, Dom., 1676; p. 319.

² *Ibid.*, 1675, 1676; p. 571.

Controller of the Household to Queen Anne, 1704-1708, and 1711-1712; one of the commissioners of the Treasury, 1710-1711; one of the tellers of the Exchequer, 1712-1714; vice-admiral of South Wales; and was made a privy councillor in 1704.

From all this it is easy to assume that he was a very well-known man in social and political circles; and there is independent evidence of this in some contemporary records.

John Macky, who made it his business to be acquainted with the persons and characters of the men about the court in his time, thus describes Thomas Mansel:

"Mr. Mansel is a young gentleman of a very good estate in Wales. He always made an agreeable figure in the House of Commons, was generally an opposer of the measures of King William's reign, yet was very civilly entertained by that Prince, in a visit he made him at Loo (King William's palace in Holland), two years before he died. He is a gentleman of a great deal of wit and good-nature, a lover of the ladies, and a pleasant companion; is very thin, of a fair complexion, middle stature, and turned of thirty years old."¹

This was probably written about the year 1705, just before Mansel succeeded to the baronetcy; he was then certainly fully "turned of thirty years old," having been born not later than 1668.

Below John Macky's observations is a manuscript note by Dean Swift: "a very good nature, but a very moderate capacity."

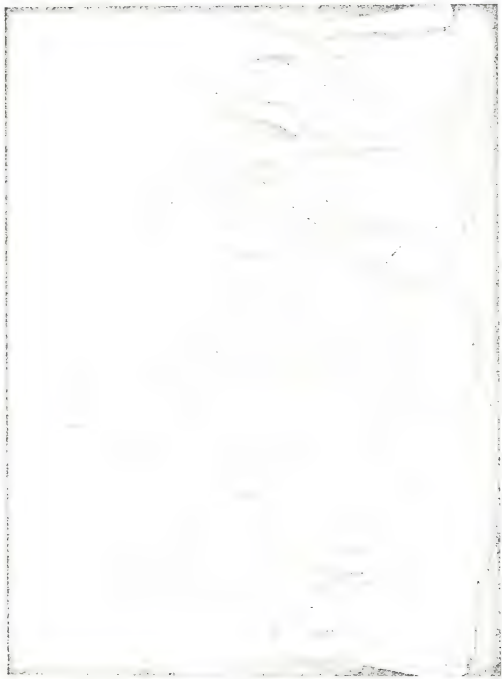
That Swift was on intimate terms with Mansel is apparent from numerous passages in "The Journal to Stella"; there are frequent allusions to meetings at dinner and elsewhere. On May 27, 1711: "As I was coming home to-night, Sir Thomas Mansel and Tom Harley met me in the Park, and made me walk with them till nine, like unreasonable whelps." On January 2, 1712: "This

¹ John Macky was a court agent, or spy, and in this capacity performed various useful services from time to time. He left a volume entitled "Memoirs of the Secret Services of John Macky, Esq.," which contains a great number of sketches similar to the above, under the heading "Characters of the Court of Great Britain." He died in 1726, and this book was published in 1733, from the original MS., attested by his son. The famous Dean Swift, who was much addicted to the writing of marginal notes in contemporary books, amused himself in this fashion in Macky's volume; his remarks are rarely complimentary either to author or subject, and he had his fling at Thomas Mansel. (See p. 114.)



KATHERINE, DAUGHTER OF ROBERT SIDNEY, EARL OF
LEICESTER, 1st WIFE OF SIR LEWIS MANSEL.

Died 8 May, 1610.



BARBARA CAMAGE, COUNTESS OF LEICESTER, AND HER CHILDREN.
(From a *Globe Book of Embroidery* Vols. The picture is in *Pennine Place*.)

being the day the Lords meet, and the new peers to be introduced, I went to Westminster to see the sight ; but the crowd was too great in the house. So I only went into the robing-room, to give my four brothers joy, and Sir Thomas Mansel, and Lord Windsor ; the other six I am not acquainted with." On January 13, 1713 : " I was to have dined with Lord Keeper, but would not, because that brute Sir John Walter was to be one of the company. You may remember he railed at me last summer was twelvemonth at Windsor, and has never begged my pardon, though he promised to do it ; and Lord Mansel, who was one of the company, would certainly have set us together by the ears, out of pure reguish mischief."

At an earlier date—March 31, 1711—Swift has the following : " I dined to-day with Sir Thomas Mansel. We were walking in the Park, and Mr. Lewis came to us. Mansel asked where we dined ? We said, together. He said, we should dine with him, only his wife desired him to bring nobody, because she had only a leg of mutton. I said, I would dine with him to choose ; but he would send a servant to order a plate or two ; yet this man has ten thousand pounds a-year in land, and is a Lord of the Treasury, and is not covetous neither, but runs out merely by slatting and negligence. The worst dinner I ever saw at the Dean's was better ; but so it is with abundance of people here."

All very well, but Dean Swift had no right to expect a sumptuous dinner under the circumstances ; and it was somewhat hard on Lady Mansel that her husband should bring him, after her warning. Swift's attitude was always critical, however, whether towards men or things, and probably the dinner was not as bad as he makes out.

Mansel must, however, have been a useful and capable man, something more than a mere "lover of the ladies and pleasant companion" ; and he was destined to be singled out, together with eleven others, for elevation to the peerage, under somewhat unusual circumstances.

The opening of Parliament on December 6, 1711, inaugurated a conflict between the ministry and the Commons on one side, and the House of Lords, under the Whig leaders, on the other. In the

queen's speech occurred the following : " I am glad that I can now tell you that, notwithstanding the arts of those who delight in war, both time and place are appointed for opening the treaty of a general peace. Our allies (especially the States-General), whose interest I look upon as inseparable from my own, have, by their ready concurrence, expressed their entire confidence in me."

This was declared by the Whig lords to be a misleading statement, and the peace preliminaries were denounced by them as a violation of our engagements. They managed to pass an opposing and condemnatory clause in the House of Lords by sixty-two to fifty-four votes. Robert Harley, first Earl of Oxford, lord high treasurer, responded by engineering the rejection of a similar clause in the Commons by two hundred and thirty-two to one hundred and six votes, and followed this up with an accusation against the Duke of Marlborough, as commander-in-chief, and Walpole, as secretary for war, of peculation in public affairs ; with the result that Walpole was sent to the Tower, and Marlborough was dismissed from all his employments.

This, however, was not sufficient ; Marlborough, the most formidable opponent of peace, had been removed ; but it was necessary that the Tories should have a majority in the Lords. The Earl of Oxford therefore advised the queen to sanction a *coup d'état* by creating a certain number of peers, who would, of course, be pledged to support Harley and the ministry.

It was not a very ferocious *coup d'état*, such as was threatened a few years ago, when the creation of *five hundred* peers was glibly discussed ; on this occasion only twelve were created, and Sir Thomas Mansel was one of them.

These creations took place within five days ; one peer was made respectively on December 28, 29, and 31, 1711 ; the remaining nine were created on January 1, Mansel coming sixth in precedence out of the twelve, with the title of Baron Mansel of Margam.

While it cannot be maintained that any great lustre attaches to the acceptance of a title under such conditions, there can be little doubt that Mansel was a man who was likely to do credit to his new rank ; but the barony was not destined to continue for many

generations, nor did it pass in a single instance directly from father to son.¹

The first Lord Mansel followed the example of those early progenitors of the family in the eleventh and twelfth centuries, in respect of their youthful assumption of the responsibilities of matrimony. He matriculated at Oxford on March 7, 1685, and was then stated to be of the age of seventeen. On May 14 in the following year, 1686, we find this entry in "Marriage Allegations in the Registry of the Vicar General of the Archbishop of Canterbury": "Thomas Mansell, of Margam, co. Glamorgan, Bachelor, about 20"—but he was probably under nineteen; while his bride, Martha Millington, is stated to be about seventeen. The marriage demanded, of course, the consent of the parents on both sides, which is duly recorded; and it was solemnised four days later, on May 18, in Westminster Abbey, as appears in the register of that church.

From this early union, however, as has already been stated, Lord Mansel was not destined to procure a direct inheritor of the title, although he had three sons and three daughters.

We get a glimpse of Martha Millington, in her capacity as the wife of a courtier and politician, a good many years later. In a letter to Robert Harley (created Earl of Oxford in the following year), dated May 28, 1710, she writes—

"I am almost fright'd to death, with the threats of a great lady who is now retired from court, which one that lately came from the Lodge tells of. In a little time she says she shall return with as full power as ever, and that both you and every friend you have shall feel the effects of her utmost revenge. Lady Orkney is often with her, and at the table begins a health to her and all that's for the Duke's interest, and total destruction to all that are not for it. Duke Hamilton thinks himself neglected by you, and others are caressing him to be of their party, but he is still more inclined to yours, and if there was occasion for going into Scotland would

¹ The Treaty of Utrecht, which ended the great War of the Spanish Succession, was not concluded until April, 1713, England obtaining possession of Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Hudson's Bay Territory, Gibraltar, and the Island of St. Kitts (St. Christopher), in the West Indies.

convince you of his interest there, and would readily join with whom you approve, and very particularly give the character and inclinations of his countrymen. The terrible apprehensions I am now under have took all rest from me, and I was forced to send for my doctor, who ordered me something that I had a tolerable night of it; but without some good news I sha'n't recover mightily soon. I won't mention the writing this to any body living, hope you will pardon the doing it, for the terror that enraged Lady has put me into is not to be expressed."

Endorsed by Harley: "Answered immediately."¹

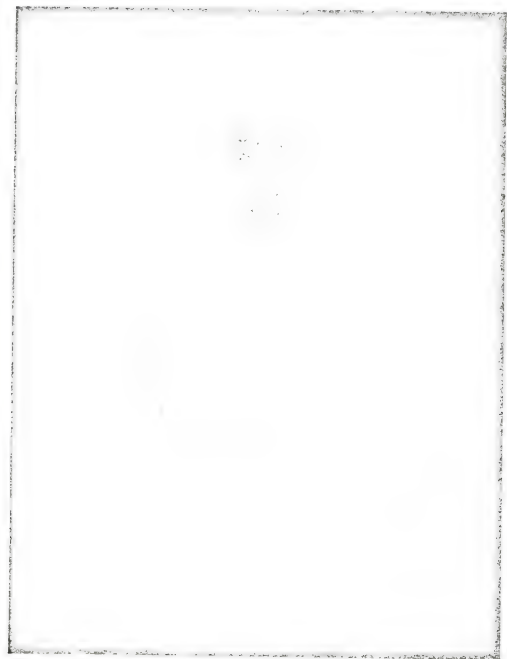
Robert, the eldest surviving son, married Anne, second daughter of the famous Admiral Sir Cloudesley Shovel, of May Place, Crayford, Kent,² and had issue; he died, however, before his father, April 29, 1723.

In Crayford church there is a monument to Elizabeth, wife of Sir Cloudesley Shovell (formerly married to Sir John Narbrough); and near this is one to Robert Mansel, son of the first Baron of Margam—a handsome mural monument of white marble, enclosed within iron rails, and bearing the following inscription:

"Near this place is deposited the body of Robert Mansel, eldest son and heir of Thomas Lord Mansel, of the antient and noble family of the Mansels of Normandy, removed into England in the time of William the Conqueror, established in Wales in the time of Henry the First, where they have flourished ever since in great splendour and dignity; first at Oxwich Castle, then at Margam, in

¹ Hist. MSS. Com. Report MSS. A. 1. 1. 1, p. 542. The "great lady" who inspired so much apprehension was, of course, the rebellious Sarah, Jennings, Duchess of Marlborough. There had been interesting tension between Queen Anne and Marlborough, and the Duchess had, as usual, backed herself very hotly, even in these affairs, admonishing and bullying the queen until the latter lost patience, and on April 6 there was a final severance, with floods of tears and mutual recriminations. Sarah did not, however, return to power as she had predicted, and Lady Mansel's fears proved groundless.

² Sir Cloudesley Shovel (or Shovel) was originally of county Norfolk, where his father, John Shovell, of Cockthorpe, was a man of some property. Sir Cloudesley was born in 1650, and went to sea at the age of fourteen. His exploits about are matter of history, and need not be here enlarged upon. He met his death in 1707, when his flagship, the *Invincible*, struck upon a rock in the Scilly Islands, and very shortly broke up. Sir Cloudesley died immediately after landing, and was buried in Westminster Abbey, where there is a monument to him. In the year 1661 he purchased, from the heirs of Colonel Creshead Draper, certain manors and estates in Kent, including May Place.



ANNE MANSEL, DAUGHTER OF LORD MANSEL.

the county of Glamorgan. He married Anne, one of the daughters and co-heirs of Sir Cloudesley Shovell, Knight, Commander in Chief of the Royal Navy under King William the Third, and Queen Anne, and Rear Admiral of England; he had by her three children, two since dead, and Thomas Lord Mansel now alive, and died in May, 1723. He gave early proofs of an uncommon pregnancy of parts and glowing wit; and to the accomplishments of a fine gentleman added the virtues of a patriot. In the flower of his youth he was snatched away from the hopes of his country and the arms of his friends; but in their hearts and memory will always live. His widow, among other signal marks of her affection, has caused this monument to be erected to his memory."

Over the monument are these arms, viz.: Quarterly, first and fourth argent, a chevron between three maunches, sable (Mansel); second and third argent, an eagle displayed, sable (Millington); escutcheon, gules, a chevron ermine, two crescents in chief, argent, in base a fleur-de-lis, or (Shovell).¹

Robert's widow afterwards married John Blackwood, Esq., by whom she had issue.

As will be seen from this inscription, upon the authority of his wife, Robert had three children; only one is named, Thomas; a point arises in connection with this, which will be discussed a little further on.

There is some correspondence in the Stuart Papers, during the year or two following the futile Mar rebellion of 1715, which may, for reasons which will presently appear, be fittingly dealt with here.

John Erskine, Earl of Mar (1675-1732), after loudly proclaiming his loyalty to King George on his accession in 1714, but having been nevertheless dismissed by that king from his office as a secretary of state, suddenly transferred his allegiance to James Stuart, the Pretender. Mar had attended a *levée* at court on the evening of August 1, 1715, and had then comported himself as a

¹ "Registrum Roſense," J. Thorpe, p. 1000, *et seq.*

Robert Mansel is said, in "The Complete Peerage," to have died April 29, 1723, while the inscription upon the tomb has May; possibly one date is "old style," and the other "new style." The latter would make the date May 9; the calendar was not rectified until 1752.

loyal and even a servile courtier; this over, he disguised himself as a workman, and took ship at Gravesend for Scotland, where he was speedily busy proclaiming "King James" at Braemar on September 6. Two months later ensued the Battle of Sheriffmuir, concerning which the well-known rhyme was written; if the contest was indecisive, it was very much to the discredit of Mar and his army, which outnumbered King George's by three to one. The Pretender having landed at Peterhead on December 23, Mar accompanied him to Scone, near Perth, and on his public entry into that town, January 2, 1710. By the end of the month, however, James was compelled to seek refuge in flight, and, together with Mar and some others, landed in France February 11 following.

Then ensued much futile scheming and correspondence among Jacobites at home and in France: they wrote most frequently in cypher, or with pseudonyms; and they were speedily joined by Henry St. John, Viscount Bolingbroke, who, together with the Duke of Ormonde, the Earl of Stratford, and the Earl of Oxford, had been impeached, on the death of Queen Anne and the accession of the Whigs to power, for their share in promoting the Treaty of Utrecht.

Bolingbroke was for some time Secretary of State to the Pretender, but was dismissed from this office in 1716; Mar was created Duke under that title by James in 1715, but was, of course, never acknowledged by it in England. He continued to be the Pretender's chief adviser and counsellor for nine or ten years.

In the Jacobite correspondence of the next year or two there is mention of one Mr. Mansel, then on the Continent; he was apparently, although, by inference, quite a young man, held in considerable esteem by the Jacobite leaders.

On November 11, 1716, the Duke of Mar, in a letter to the Marquess of Wharton, writes: "I heard t'other day from Brussels that Mansel had passed again there who is now as angry with Bolingbroke as ever he was pleased with him."¹

On November 18 Mar writes again: "I did not know Mr.

¹ Stuart Papers at Windsor Castle (Hist. MSS. Com.). Vol. iii., p. 202. Philip, second Marquess and afterwards first Duke of Wharton.

Mansel was returned to Paris. I am not acquainted with him, but his good character gets him the esteem of everybody." ¹

On January 7, 1717, Mar writes to Mr. Panton from Avignon : " By the King's (*i.e.* the Pretender's) orders returning him his best thanks for his endeavours for his service, and acknowledging his friend Mr. Mansel's message, which the King took very kindly, who relies on his doing him all the service in his power." ²

On February 6, 1717, Mr. Panton writes to Major Simon Fraser, at Avignon : " Lord Bolingbroke is not yet gone, but is preparing, he says, to go into Champagne, and for carrying with him some half a dozen of English horses, a few servants, dogs, and anything else his Lordship may have occasion for, and there he proposes to live and laugh at all Courts. How true this last may be, or whether Champagne be the place, are two of the articles I will not warrant the truth of; if it is, then it is probably in order to his return to the Island. Stair and he pretend to make a mystery of their being frequently together, sometimes *tête-à-tête*, and sometimes with some French man or woman for a third, but they know that I have been told of their being together by one who was more than once the third, where the expressions in conversation were 'Dear Stair,' 'Dear Bolingbroke.'

" He is still at as much pains as formerly to court and entertain with a supper every Tory as he comes to town, but, as I know most of them, his Secretary or he seldom fail to meet me with them next morning. I have not met with anyone yet but one, who seemed any way in danger of being deluded by him, and I am sure he is so far from it now that nobody believes or esteems him less. I met him, some days before I fell ill, at Mr. Mansel's, that is, I had lain there and he came in there pretty early in the morning, and surprised us in our nightgowns. I went out soon after to my own room to dress, and Mr. Mansel having said something obliging of me after I was gone, he said he could not deny but I was a very honest man, and added further that which I did not deserve, a man of extraordinary good sense, but so bigoted a Jacobite that, though he advised Mr. Mansel to take my advice in everything else, yet to take care not to do it in that particular, otherwise he would ruin himself. Mr. Mansel told him that he resolved to be directed by my advice as to his particular affairs, and as to that he had chosen his party long ago

¹ Stuart Papers at Windsor Castle (Hist. MSS. Com.). Vol. lili, p. 229.

² *Ibid.*, p. 409. "The Duke of Mar and the Marquis of Wharton disguise their names as 'J. Clarke' and 'Mr. Coatsby,' & other pseudonyms. Mansel is referred to in one letter in cypher, and elsewhere his name is "disvowelled."

in which the conversation he had had with his Lordship about a year ago or some more had perfectly confirmed him, and that he could not think he, Lord Bolingbroke, could have discovered since that time anything in the affairs of Britain that could have made him change his sentiments so entirely : upon which his Lordship rose, and going out, told him he was sorry to see him so far gone.

" Mr. Mansel is very urgent with me to go to England with him. My own little affairs seem to persuade me to the same, because my little fund is near exhausted, and I must be in England myself to raise more. These reasons, and that I may be of use to Mr. Mansel, whom his father designs to marry and settle immediately, and who will want very much to be advised in several bargains he will have to end with the most covetous father in England, have almost determined me, but I am not altogether without apprehension of being taken up ; yet, though all the world should believe me a Jacobite, I hope few or none can prove me so. In that case I should come out by virtue of the *Habeas Corpus*, but then Mr. Mansel asking to have me put in his pass will be one way of trying whether Lord Stair will give me one or no."¹

Here we have one Mr. Mansel, a Jacobite, and evidently held in some consideration ; a friend of " Mr. Panton " (obviously a pseudonym ; his real name is not disclosed in the introduction to the Stuart Papers), and on more or less intimate terms with Lord Bolingbroke, who had, just about this time, abjured his Jacobite policy, thereby arousing Mr. Mansel's indignation.

This Mr. Mansel, it may be assumed from various allusions, was a young man ; his father, we are told, designed his immediate marriage ; and marriages were almost invariably contracted in those days at a more or less youthful period ; furthermore, this young man's father would naturally wish to see him married and settled in England, rather than being concerned with Jacobite schemes in France. The Duke of Mar—as he was termed in France—says of Mansel : " his good character gets him the esteem of everyone."

It appears to be quite a reasonable hypothesis that this Mansel was no other than the Honourable Robert, son of Thomas.

¹ Stuart Papers at Windsor Castle (Hist. MSS. Com.). Vol. iii., pp. 515, *et seq.* Major Simon Fraser was of the family of Simon Fraser, Baron Lowat, a great Jacobite schemer up to 1715, when he took the other side, and rendered important service to the Government. Lord Stair was English ambassador in Paris.

MARTHA, daughter of Francis Millington, wife of Thomas, 1st Lord Mansel.

Born 1669, died 1718.

[*face p. 24*



first baron of Margam. He was born, according to a pedigree among the MSS. at Margam, on November 2, 1695,¹ so he would at this time be only about two-and-twenty. His widow says of him, in the epitaph at Crayford, "He gave early proofs of an uncommon pregnancy of parts and glowing wit; and to the accomplishments of a fine gentleman added the virtues of a patriot."

This last phrase is scarcely to be reconciled with Jacobite leanings, in the eyes of the daughter of Sir Cloudesley Shovel; but it may very well be that Robert's "settling" included his abstention from further excursions in this respect.

Moreover, the year of "Mr. Pantons'" letter corresponds with the time of Robert Mansel's marriage, which took place in April, 1718. His son Thomas, second baron, was born December 26, 1719.²

The Deed of Settlement on the occasion of the marriage of Robert Mansel is among the Penrice and Margam MSS.; it is described as quadrupartite, the parties being Thomas Lord Mansel, Baron of Margam, the Hon. Robert Mansel, Esq., his son and heir, and Ann (Shovell), his wife of the first part; Dame Elizabeth Shovell of May Place, widow of Sir Cloudesley Shovell of the second part; Edmund Probyn of the Middle Temple, Esq., and Thomas Cory of Margam, and others of the third part; and Edward Mansel of Swansea, Esq., of the fourth part; and it provides that, in consideration of a marriage portion of £20,000 the said Thomas Lord Mansel conveys the Glamorganshire estates to trustees, to the use of the said parties now married, etc. It is dated April 5, 1718, probably the day of the marriage. Edward Mansel of Swansea is evidently the son of Edward Mansel of Henlys, whose will was proved in 1694.³

In the absence of any Christian name or other means of identification in the letters, it is not, of course, possible to declare with absolute certainty that this was the Honourable Robert; but

¹ Penrice and Margam MSS., ed. by W. de G. Birch. Series II., p. 109. The Register of Robert Mansel's birth has not been found elsewhere.

² *Ibid.*

³ *Ibid.* Series III., p. 17, no. 1156.

the circumstantial evidence is strongly in favour of the hypothesis, which is supported also by the fact that, if it were not Robert, it does not seem possible to find any member of the family who would fit in; Christopher and Bussy were both under age at the time, and others who might be eligible were already married.

Thomas, the first baron, died December 10, 1723, and was buried at Margam.

Lord Mansel appears to have been on intimate terms with the Harleys—Robert, first Earl of Oxford, and Edward, his son.

In the Portland MSS. (Hist. MSS. Com.) there occurs, in a letter from William Stratford, of Christchurch, Oxford, to Edward Harley (with whom Stratford kept up an enormous correspondence), dated December 30, 1723, the following passage: "I have not yet condoled with you on the loss of Lord Mansel. One part of his character was very commendable, his honourable behaviour to your father. I hear he died of a broken heart, partly at the loss of his son, but more for the marriage of his daughter."¹

Lord Mansel's "honourable behaviour" to the Earl of Oxford probably consisted in his scrupulous adherence to the conditions under which he accepted the peerage—namely, unswerving support of the Tory faction in the House of Lords.

As to Stratford's story that he "died of a broken heart," the expression is, of course, a vague sort of commonplace frequently made use of without much consideration. The loss of his eldest son and heir, a young man apparently possessed of many admirable qualities, must have been a great shock to Lord Mansel, but according to the writer the marriage of his daughter was a still heavier blow. This statement may be taken for what it is worth; it is probably a bit of gossip. Lord Mansel's daughter Mary was married to John Ivory Talbot, Esq., of Lacock, Wilts; Martha is stated in one pedigree to have married "Morgan Thomas, clerk"; it does not appear to which of these marriages William Stratford alludes: but a man whose gossiping letters fill some four hundred and fifty

¹ Portland MSS. Vol. vii., p. 371.

closely-printed pages would probably include every idle *on dit* extant.¹

Lord Mansel was succeeded by his grandson, Thomas, son of the Hon. Robert Mansel; the latter, according to the inscription upon his tomb, had two other children, who presumably died young, but one of whom, under the name of Robert, is introduced in the pedigree by Robert George Maunsell as the successor of his grandfather; Thomas, his brother, succeeding him.

This, however, is an error; whether there was any such Robert is not certain, but if so he certainly died before his brother Thomas, and probably before the Hon. Robert, his father, and so could not have inherited the title.

This mistake has crept in through a somewhat careless misreading of records, and also, more excusably, by reason of a slip in the register in Crayford church.

Thomas Mansel, second baron of Margam, died unmarried on January 29, 1744; he was buried in Crayford church, February 3; but R. G. Maunsell has misread the record "3 Feb. 1743-4" as signifying 1743, and has given this as the date of the death of his apocryphal Robert; following which he has "Thomas Mansel, 6 Bart. and 3rd Baron, who died unmarried 29 January, 1744," whereas these two dates are those of the death and burial of Thomas, the second baron.

Curiously enough, however, there is a mistake in the entry at Crayford church, where, on February 3, 1743—which, in the register, means 1744—appears the record: "The Hon. Robert, Lord Mansell (*sic*), from London." There can be no doubt that *Robert* is here erroneously substituted for *Thomas*, administration of whose estate was granted March 2, 1744.²

Thomas Mansel was therefore fifth baronet and second baron. We do not hear about him as taking any great part in public affairs;

¹ Dr. William Stratford, canon of Christchurch, Oxford, was son of Nicholas Stratford, Bishop of Chester. Previously to his appointment as canon, he had been chaplain to Robert Harley, hence his intimacy with the family.

² See "History of Maunsell or Mansel," by R. G. Maunsell, p. 27. "The Complete Peerage," by G. E. C., vol. vi., p. 214. "Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica," Second Series, vol. iv., p. 69. Also original record of administration granted, at Somerset House.

this is not surprising, since he inherited at the age of four years, and died at five-and-twenty.

He took his seat in the House of Lords in 1743; his name appears in the list of barons present on December 1 in that year, and upon the same day he was appointed a member of a Committee of Privilege, "To consider of the Orders and Customs of the House, and the Privileges of Parliament, and of the Peers of Great Britain and Lords of Parliament."¹

His death ensued two months later; and, as he was unmarried, the title passed to Christopher, second son of the first Lord Mansel, who also died unmarried, his brother Bussy, third son of the first Lord Mansel, inheriting the title.

Christopher Lord Mansel died at Newick Place, near Lewes, county Sussex, which had formerly belonged to John Millington, either father or elder brother to Francis Millington, whose daughter married Thomas Mansel. Prior to the marriage a lease was granted to John Millington, Esq., of Newick, and John Emile of London, merchant, of certain lands and manors of Sir Edward Mansel's Margam estate, which, by the subsequent Deed of Settlement, were conveyed to trustees for the use of the parties under specified conditions.

In Horsfield's History of Sussex it is stated that Newick was in the family of Sir Stephen Boord until 1680, and that in 1716 John Longley, of St. Mary-le-Savoy, London, was the owner. The estate appears, at any rate, to have passed from the Millingtons, and to have been purchased by Christopher (afterwards Lord) Mansel about 1734, upon whose death it passed to Bussy Lord Mansel; his daughter bequeathed it, according to Horsfield, to the Dowager Lady Fortescue. (Vol. i., p. 224.)

After her death it became the property of Mr. James Powell; he sold it in 1819 to Mr. James Henry Schlater, whose grandson is the present possessor (1917).

The register of Newick Parish has the following entries:

"1710. March 5. VINCENT COOPER, M.A., instituted upon the Presentation of the Honble. Sir THOMAS MANSEL, Bart." (who

¹ Lords' Journals.



SIR THOMAS MANSELL OF MARGAM, afterwards LORD MANSELL
Born 1668; died 16 December, 1723.



MARY, DAUGHTER OF THOMAS, 1ST LORD MANSEL,
WIFE OF JOHN IVORY TALBOT.

was in the following year, as already recorded, created Baron Mansel of Margam).

"1744. Nov. 30. The Right Honble. Lord MANSEL buried. His Lordship died on Monday, Nov. 26th."

"1761. June 21. The Right Honble. Lady BARBARA MANSEL, relict of the Right Honble. Lord BUSSY MANSEL."

"1786. Feb. 24. The Right Honble. LOUISA BARBARA, Baroness VERNON, wife of the Right Honble. GEORGE VENABLES VERNON, Lord VERNON, and daughter of the Right Honble. BUSSY Lord MANSEL."

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS

"To the memory of the Right Honourable Lady BARBARA MANSEL (relict of the late Right Honble. Lord BUSSY MANSELL) who died June 19th 1761."

"To the memory of LOUISA BARBARA, Lady VERNON, wife of GEORGE VENABLES Lord VERNON; daughter to BUSSY Lord MANSEL by BARBARA daughter to WILLIAM the 2nd Earl of Jersey. She died Feb. 16th 1786, aged 53. Ever to be regretted by the poor of this parish."¹

"To the memory of GEORGE VERNON, son of the Honble. GEORGE VERNON by his wife the Honble. LOUISA VERNON daughter and heiress of the Right Honble. BUSSY Lord MANSEL. Born Nov. 19th 1761. Died of measles at the age of 18 months."

In the list of "Priests of this Parish":

"1784. ROWLAND DAWKINS MANSEL was Vicar of Newick till 1789."

All trace of the Millingtons has disappeared from Newick; it is on record, however, that Francis Millington settled £10,000 on his daughter Martha upon her marriage with Thomas Mansel.²

Bussy Mansel was M.P. for Cardiff in 1722, 1727, 1734, and 1741. He survived his brother Christopher by only six years, dying November 20, 1750; and having issue only one daughter, the baronetcy and barony alike became extinct.

In connection with some collateral branches of the Mansels of Margam, there are one or two interesting points to be discussed.

Arthur Mansel, third son of Sir Thomas, the first baronet, married, as shown in the pedigree, Jane, daughter and co-heir of William Price, of Britton Ferry; and she afterwards took as her

¹ Lady Vernon, among other charities, founded some schools, which still bear her name.

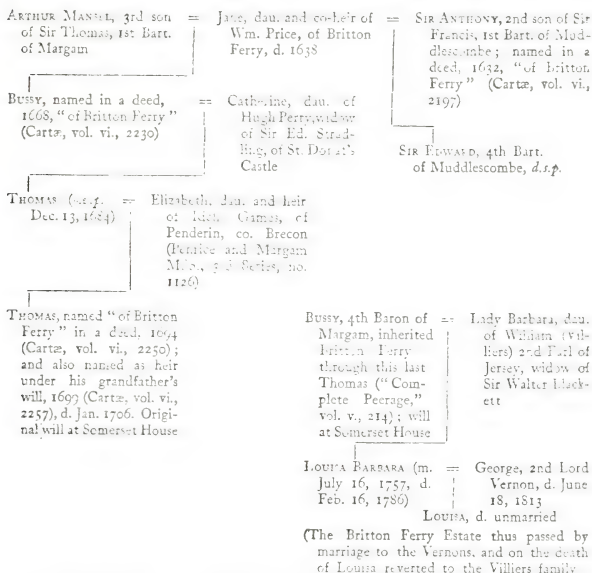
² Penrice and Margam MSS., Third Series, p. 73, nos. 1443, 1444.

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second husband Sir Anthony Mansel, her late husband's first cousin, second son of Sir Francis, first baronet of Muddlescombe—of whom more hereafter.

Arthur Mansel had issue a son, Bussy,¹ who married Catherine, daughter of Hugh Perry of London, and widow of Sir Edward Stradling, of St. Donat's Castle.

The points at issue will be most readily set forth, first by the following sketch pedigree, illustrating the devolution of the Britton Ferry estate; and secondly, by a letter from Jane Mansel, Arthur's widow and Sir Anthony's wife, to her son Bussy.



¹ Mr. R. G. Maunsell (p. 23) gives Arthur a son Thomas, older than Bussy. Mr. G. T. Clark says that Arthur had issue *one son*, Bussy. Arch. Camb. Series II., vol. ii., p. 238.

According to the monumental inscription in Westminster Abbey, Thomas, son of Bussy Mansel, had one son, Thomas (as shown in the pedigree), and two daughters, Mary and Elizabeth.

Mary married William Cary of Clovelly, a member of an old family established in Devonshire since early in the sixteenth century ; ¹ she died in February, 1701.

Elizabeth married Sir Thomas Powel (or Powell), of Broadway, near Laugharne, county Carmarthen, Bart.²

From the deeds quoted above, which are given *in extenso* in Clark's "Cartæ et Munimenta de Glamorgan," it would appear that Jane Mansel (*née* Price) held the estate of Britton Ferry for her lifetime, and thus her second husband, Sir Anthony, is named in 1632 as "of Britton Ferry."

COPY OF A LETTER FROM MRS. JANE MANSEL TO HER SON

"MY DEAR DEAR BUSSY, I bless you again and again, heartily, in the Lord ; the request of my dying heart, which upon my blessing I charge you to observe, you shall understand as followeth :

"1. I intreat and earnestly exhort you first, and above all things, to be diligent and careful in the service of my great God, who hath gratuitously manifested his mercies towards your poor mother in all her straightness, and will deal no less favourable with you, if you walk uprightly in his ways, and unfeignedly observe his Laws ; for he will be the God of the faithful, and of their seed, for ever.

"2. Secondly, as soon as you hear of my death, be ruled by your Father, and go with him to London, to express yourself earnestly upon your knees to the Master of the Court of Ward (whom I hear to be a Noble and just Lord), that he may have your wardship, for I am persuaded that your will and inclination will be much available to obtain it ; and you know that no man living will be so careful of you, and so sincerely just and upright in all his dealings, as he ; for he never injured any tenant or neighbour since he came among them.³

"3. I desire you that what Leases or Grants soever you find,

¹ "Visitations of the County of Devon." J. L. Vivian, p. 159. There is a very full pedigree given of the Carys.

² Monumental inscription in Newton Church, Montgomery.

³ Meaning, of course, Bussy's step-father, Sir Anthony ; the construction is somewhat obscure. The Master of the Court of Wards in 1638 was Francis, Lord Cottington.

under the hands of either of your Grandfathers or mine,¹ that you will confirm and make them good.

"4. I beseech thee, my dear child, be good unto thy poor Brothers and Sisters, and suffer them not to want in what thou canst supply them; and I trust in my God they will be on all occasions of joy and comfort unto thee.

"5. My dear heart, consider that your poor servants and friends will be utterly undone, if they be bereaved of your Father to protect them from the injuries and oppressions of others; therefore, renouncing all others, cleave to his protection with all love and union, till it will please God to make you a man able to govern and look unto your Tenants and poor friends yourself; and for your better inducement so to do, he was your Father's dear Cousin-German, and hath been a loving and tender husband to your mother ever since the day I met with him; and be assured that he never had a hand or intelligence in the hinderance of you to the value of a farthing.

"6. Good Son, as you tender my blessing, read this, my last letter, every Monday morning for seven years; and then I hope that the God of Wisdom will give you understanding in all that I have said, and plant in your dear heart Grace and obedience to do accordingly. I was all the Parents that you can well remember; and I hope you will so much the more wish my request and advice.

"7. When you come to the age of one and twenty years (if it be God's gracious will that you accomplish so many), I pray you, for God's blessing and mine, that you will be resolved to come and live in the country, and not to abroad to consume and waste your estate, and discomfort your poor Friends and Tenants, whom I charge you as you shall answer before God, to use well and conscientiously, and not to wrong or oppress them in any way; and thus my dear Child, your dying mother commends you to the Blessing and Grace of the Lord, before whose glorious throne I am shortly to appear, and the Grace of my Lord to possess and sanctify your heart and keep your Soul and Body blameless unto the day of His appearance.

"Your dying (but I trust ere long) eternally living Mother,

"J. M.

"BRITTON FERRY, 12th Nov., 1638."

ENDORSEMENT ON BACK OF LETTER.

"Mrs. Jane Mansel's letter to her son Bussy, 16 days before her death, the 11th day of November, 1638, Dyed the 27th Nobre, between the hours of 12 and 1."²

¹ *I.e.*, either Sir Thomas Mansel, first baronet, or William Price of Britton Ferry.

² Arch. Camb. Series II., vol. ii., pp. 238, *et seq.* The original letter was in the possession of the Rev. J. M. Traherne in 1851.

THOMAS, First Lord Mansel. Born 1668, died Dec. 10, 1723. (*Penrice Collection.*)

(Misnamed Bussy Lord Mansel.)

[face p. 52



The inquisition post mortem upon Jane, Lady Mansel (spelt Maunsell and Mansell in the original), is in the Record Office. It is a very long and wordy document, and the chief points of interest affecting this present account are, that Jane is found to have had a son Thomas, by her first marriage, who died during her lifetime, and a second son, Bussy, who is found to be her heir, and of the age of fifteen at the time of her death., *i.e.*, in November, 1638; the inquisition is dated January 2, 14 Charles I. (1639).¹

Mr. R. G. Maunsell is thus shown to be correct with regard to the issue of Arthur Mansel and Jane Price, and Mr. G. T. Clark is wrong in his statement as recorded in the footnote on a preceding page; the discrepancy is not, however, of any importance.

Bussy Mansel was therefore born, according to the inquisition, in 1623, a fact worthy of notice, in view of the following entry in the Journal of the House of Lords, dated December 20, 1645:

"The Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament do nominate and approve of Busby Mansell, Esquire, to be Commander in Chief of the Forces of the County of Glamorgan, subordinate to Sir Thomas Fairfax; and that the members of both Houses that are of the Committee of both Kingdoms do grant him a Commission accordingly."²

This is somewhat surprising, as Bussy Mansel was then only twenty-two years of age; the appointment of so young a man to such a command would appear to indicate either that he was precociously experienced and capable, or that he was possessed of powerful influence in high quarters.

¹ Inq. Post Mortem. Second Series, vol. 569, no. 125, P.R.O. In a summary of this inquisition in *The Gentleman's Magazine*, vol. xxviii, p. 136, Jane Mansel is described as a widow; this, however, is incorrect. In the original she is named as "Jana Domina Maunsell, nuper uxor Antonii Militis defuncta"; the gender of "defuncta" appears to have been overlooked by the transcriber.

² Lords' Journals. Vol. viii, p. 52. The appointment is also recorded in Whitelocke's "Memorials of the English Affairs," p. 190. Whitelocke also mentions the appointment of Mr. Prichard as Governor of Cardiff: this is probably Colonel Edward Prichard, who married Bussy Mansel's sister Mary.

Bussy Mansel's will, quoted in Clark's "*Cartæ et Munimenta*," has been verified at Somerset House; it is dated March 30, 1699, and was proved in the same year. Bussy must then have been seventy-six years of age.¹

The Westminster Abbey register records the burial of his son, December 23, 1684, and of his grandson, January 15, 1706: "in the North aisle, near the Mansells' monuments."

The will of this last Thomas was proved on May 21, 1706, by Thomas, afterwards first Lord Mansel of Margam, to whom he left his estates, with remainder to his sons in succession.

There will be some more to be said about the Mansels of Britton Ferry in connection with the Great Rebellion, to be dealt with in a subsequent chapter.

The marriage of Mary, daughter of the first Lord Mansel, already alluded to, with John Ivory Talbot, Esquire, took place in London on July 1, 1716. Lord Mansel's residence was in Soho Square, at that time a fashionable quarter; the Rev. J. M. Traherne supplies the menu of the wedding supper on the day of the marriage, and the dinner on the following day, with the cost—which is of some interest from more than one point of view, as illustrating the notions of the time regarding such feastings, and also the prices paid for the various commodities.

¹ It is remarkable that Bussy Mansel is said by Mr. G. T. Clark (in an editorial note to Mrs. Jane Mansel's letter) and others, to have been buried at Britton Ferry on May 26, 1669. There is no question, however, about the will above alluded to; it is certainly dated as described, and as it was proved in the same year (1699), it appears probable that Bussy was buried on May 26 in that year; the year 1669 may be a printer's error, which has been accepted and copied by several writers. An appeal to the present vicar of Britton Ferry has elicited the reply that similar enquiries had previously been made, but that there is no definite evidence on the point; so it does not even appear to be certain that Bussy was buried at Britton Ferry, though it is most probable that he was. The will must, however, be accepted as proof that he died in 1699: there is no other Bussy who would fit in.

In further testimony of the survival of Bussy Mansel subsequent to the year 1669, there was a Warrant of Justices issued, July 25, 1735, to the Governor of Chepstow Castle, for the release of Bussy Mansel and others, who had been arrested as "disaffected and suspicious persons." Bussy apparently adhered obstinately to his anti-Jacobite views. (See Penrice and Margam MSS., Third Series, p. 13, no. 1137.)

BARONS MANSEL OF MARGAM

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WEDDING SUPPER, July 1, 1716.

Stewed Carps	o	16	o
Fricassee and marinade of chickens	o	16	o
Ham pasty	1	5	o
Squab pigeons in comp ¹	o	14	o
Scotch collips larded and roasted sweetbread	o	14	o
A forcet meat pattie and pot ^d eggs	o	14	o
Butter ^d Crabbs	o	10	o
4 pheasants. 6 Quails	1	11	o
4 Turkey poults	o	14	o
9 dishes of fruit and Sw ^t meats	2	o	o
Coches and portorage	1	o	o

Paid M. Renaugh £25

WEDDING DINNER, July 2, 1716.

A Cray fish soope	1	2	o
A pease soope with 2 foret ducks	o	12	o
A haunch of Venison	2	o	o
Four boiled chickens with a tongue	o	15	o
A green goose pye	o	10	o
Veale Olives	o	7	o
A skillett of beef stewed	o	7	o
Surtoot of trouts	o	12	o
Little pyes a la mazarine	o	5	o
Cudlets a la Maintenon	o	5	o
Isle of Thames Salmon	1	4	o
Roasted pike	1	o	o
5 Squabs. 4 ruffs. 1 larded turkey	1	6	o
1 leveret. 4 pheas. 4 quails	1	12	o
Sturgeon and prawns	o	12	o
Roasted lobsters	o	10	o
Fryed soales	o	12	o
Murrells (morells) with cream	o	6	o
Regout of sw ^t breads and mush ^t	o	6	o
Roundsell pease	o	4	o
Hartich (artichokes) Bottoms and froyd	o	4	o
Nule of pistashes (a sort of cake)	o	7	o
Forcet oranges	o	6	o
A desert of 15 dishes of fruits and sw ^t meats	4	o	o
	£19	4	o ¹

These festivities thus cost Lord Mansel £30 ; whether the sum was well laid out it is not possible to form an opinion, not knowing the number of the guests ; but the prices in many instances do not

¹ Arch. Camb. Series II., vol. ii., pp. 240. 241. Mr. Traherne alludes to the wedding as that of Mary, daughter of Thomas Lord Mansel, to the *Rev. Thomas Talbot* ; but this was Mary's son.

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strike one as greatly below what might have been paid nowadays—*before the war.*

John Ivory Talbot apparently received the sum of £5,000 as marriage portion with Mary Mansel, and a subsequent addition, under Lord Mansel's will, of £2,990. (See Penrice and Margam MSS., Third Series, p. 18, no. 1162.)

There are some interesting details concerning the first and second barons of Margam in "Historical Notices . . . of West Gower," by the Rev. J. D. Davies.

Copy of a letter by Mr. Edward Hancorne of Oxwich to Thomas, first Lord Mansel of Margam, with the present of a large turbot caught on Oxwich sands. Dated August 31, 1721.

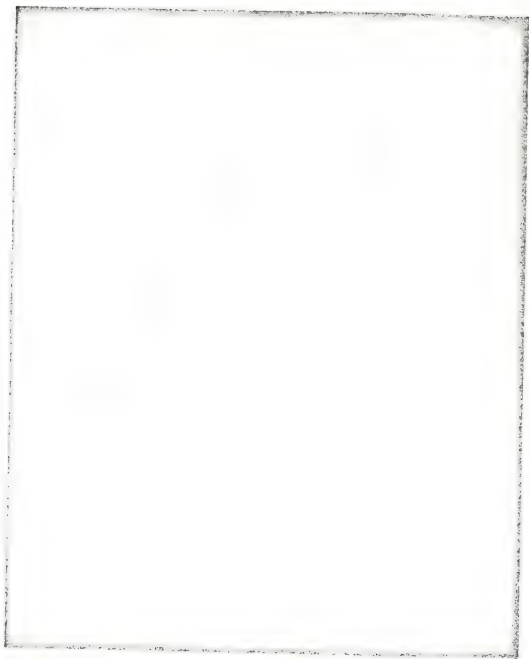
"MY LORD,

"One of the fishermen brought here a Turbot last night, and it being one of the best as ever I saw, has occasioned me to send it to your Lordship, it being too good for any of your Lordship's Creatures in this part of the world, for which this my presumption I hope your Lordship will pardon me (for I remember some part of the ancient Romans Law which was that if any common man did eat a mullet that did exceed 12 inches, they were to be punished with death), from which it may be thought reasonable that we your Lordship's tenants here, ought to be fined etc. in case your Lordship had not the good things of this country sent to Margam. I paid the money to Captain Mansell, as also I called at Feryill and gave Mr. Phillips whatever your Lordship sent him by me; my brother Mansell when I was last from home talked at a great rate of his non referring his concerns to any man. I am afraid in a short time he will disown a supreme power, or that (there?) is any mortal that can stop his pleasure of hunting and betting in these parts etc."¹

Concerning this Mr. Edward Hancorne, and his "brother Mansell," there is some interesting information in certain of the manuscripts preserved at Margam Abbey, as follows:

"Statement of the case between Thomas Mansel, Elizabeth Mansel, wife of Edward Hancorne, and Katherine Mansel, wife of William Frampton, children of Thomas Mansel, senior, respecting

¹ "Historical Notices of the Parishes of Penrice, etc.," by J. D. Davies. Pt. iv., p. 327.



THE SECOND LORD MANSEL, GRANDSON OF THOMAS
LORD MANSEL, ab. 1743, aged 24 years,
WITH HIS STEP-SISTER AND BROTHERS (BLACKWOOD).

Painted by Alan Ramsay, 1749
(Penrice Collection.)

the possession of Penrice Farm. With opinion of Samuel Mead, Counsel, 18 May 1721."¹

"The case stated concerning the following matter: 27 Dec., 1669. Sir Edward Mansel, in consideration of £200 paid by Thomas Mansel, by indenture granted to him Penrice Castle Farm with appurtenances, valued at £30 yearly rent, to hold during life at 20/- yearly rent. By virtue of this deed Thomas Mansel entered, and having afterwards two daughters, Elizabeth and Katherine, and a son Thomas, by Elizabeth Thomas, his housekeeper, which he owned as his natural children, he came to an agreement with Sir Edward Mansel to add the lives of the said Thomas and Elizabeth in the said farm, for £100. With subsequent proceedings relating to the premises; and the opinion of William Peere Williams, a chancery conveyancer, thereon. 29 July, 1721."²

From these documents it would appear that Edward Hancorne—who was apparently agent to Lord Mansel—married Elizabeth, natural daughter of one Thomas Mansel, who became tenant of Penrice Castle farm in or about 1669. The "brother Mansel" alluded to in Hancorne's letter must have been Thomas Mansel, junior, natural son of Thomas the elder.

There is another deed which serves to throw some light upon this matter, though it appears to clash in some particulars with the cases above cited.

"A deed containing a declaration of trust by Edward Hancorne of Pitt, co. Glamorgan, 'touching the £500 mortgage upon sundry lands in cos. Glamorgan and Brecon, assigned to him by the Hon. Christopher Mansel Esq., which is to be a provision for Catherine Mansel and Mary Mansel, the two reputed natural daughters of Thomas Lord Mansel by Mrs. Catherine Thomas of Margam.' 6 Dec. 1722. Signed and sealed by Edward Hancorne and Lord Mansel."³

Here is a formal acknowledgment by Lord Mansel that he was the "reputed" father of two children by Catherine Thomas of

¹ Penrice and Margam MSS. Series IV., pt. ii., p. 315, no. 2452.

² *Ibid.*, no. 3793.

³ *Ibid.*, pt. i., p. 76, no. 6544.

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Margam; but they are named Katherine and Mary, and their mother's Christian name is given as Catherine, in place of Elizabeth. These discrepancies, however, are not of sufficient importance to discount seriously the obvious deduction that Hancorne's wife was actually a daughter of Lord Mansel. There was frequently great carelessness in the matter of Christian names in such documents at that time, and the qualifying participle "reputed" carries no weight against the assumption; Lord Mansel's signature to the deed must be accepted as testimony to his acknowledgment of parentage.

The date, December 27, 1669, given in the "case stated" above, apparently as that on which the indenture between Sir Edward Mansel and Thomas was executed, raises another point. Thomas, afterwards first Lord Mansel, was at that time only about two years of age, and consequently could not be the Thomas therein mentioned; unless the year, 1669, has been wrongly transcribed from the original document. Probably it should read 1699; but the original is not now accessible.

There is another document in the catalogue bearing upon the matter, which is labelled only "early 18th Century." It runs as follows:

"Draft award by Thomas, Lord Mansel, Baron of Margam, in the matter of the differences between Thomas Mansel of Penrice, co. Glamorgan, gentleman, and Edward Hancorne, Elizabeth his wife, Wm. Frampton of Swansea, and Katherine his wife, respecting the right and title to Penrice Farm."¹

Here Thomas Mansel, "gentleman," is obviously the brother of Katherine and Elizabeth, alluded to in the document first quoted above, and, by inference, the natural son of Lord Mansel.

This is all that can be made of the episode; apparently Christopher Mansel, half-brother to this Thomas and his sisters, intervened at one time on their behalf. The marriage of the agent or steward of the estate with the natural daughter of his employer is a curious and unusual—perhaps an unique—incident.

Hancorne adds in a postscript: "I called at Britton Ferry to see Mr. Burroughs who was very ill in the gout but as soon as I

¹ Penrice and Margam MSS. Series IV., pt. ii., p. 314, no. 5445.

told him of the great mortification which was like to in . . . family he recovered strangely, and I believe another such piece of news would have made a thorough cure of him."

Mr. Burroughs may have been the agent at Britton Ferry, which was held at that time by Lord Mansel, in accordance with the will of Thomas Mansel, above referred to. The imminence of a "great mortification" presumably threatening the family of his employer appears to be an unusual agent in the cure of gout; but, as Mr. Weller senior reminded Mr. Pickwick, it is an ailment arising from too much ease and comfort. The impending mortification may have been the marriage of Lord Mansel's daughter, Martha, alluded to in Dr. Stratford's letter to Edward Harley, quoted above. She was not married in 1718, as there is a letter from her to her father, transcribed by Mr. Davies, in that year, signed with her maiden name—an exceedingly "dutiful" letter, almost priggish in its submissive precision.

Mr. Davies also gives some details relative to the allowance to be made to Thomas, second Lord Mansel, during his minority. It appears that during his sojourn at Christ Church College, Oxford, he was in the first instance allowed £400 a year. His guardians were his mother—then Mrs. Blackwood—the Hon. Bussy Mansel (his uncle), John Dawney and John Talbot, Esqrs. Mr. Davies tells us that his stepfather, John Blackwood, was objected to as a guardian by his near relatives, on the ground that he (Blackwood) *was a Scotchman*, and also that his affairs were in a somewhat embarrassed condition. This letter was found upon closer examination to be untrue; but the disability of Mr. Blackwood's Scots nationality was apparently permitted to stand—not very greatly to the credit of the Mansels; one would imagine that a Scotsman would make as good a guardian as anyone else.

It appears from a schedule prepared, upon application from the young lord for an increased allowance, that the margin remaining for clothes, linen, and personal expenses was deemed inadequate by his lordship; which contention was confirmed by Robert Holford, a Master in Chancery appointed by the Lord Chancellor to deal with the matter. The schedule runs as follows; it is of some interest, as

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illustrating the allowances, etc., considered suitable for a young nobleman at college at that period.

Mr. Ffawlkner the Governor's yearly salary	100	0	0
His diet and Washing	50	0	0
Dr. Ffranshaw his Lordship's Tutor, yearly salary	31	0	0
Mr. Keith his sub-tutor's salary	10	10	0
A footman's Wages, clothing and Diet	30	0	0
The Keeping of two Horses	40	0	0
Chamber Rent	25	0	0
A Servitor's salary	4	0	0
Commons in the College	40	0	0
Laundress	5	0	0
Bed maker	5	0	0
Barber	5	0	0
So that if the maintenance be increased to five hundred pounds yearly his Lordship will have left for clothes linen and personal expenses only	123	0	0
	500	0	0

Examined R. H.

Mr. Robert Holford's examination of this document would appear, however, to have been somewhat perfunctory, for he did not take the trouble to check the addition. As a matter of fact, the expenses only amount to £345 10s., so that Lord Mansel would have, under the former allowance, £54 10s., and with the £500 allowance £154 10s. for these incidental expenses. However, it was not by any means wildly extravagant for a youth of his position; and let us hope that he contrived to elude the wiles of the Oxford tradesmen, and avoided the too frequent accumulation of "college debts."

Subsequently, having completed his studies at the university, it was deemed advisable that Lord Mansel should, as was customary, make the "grand tour" on the continent; whereupon the Lord Chancellor was again appealed to, and an allowance of £1,200 a year was sanctioned; it was stated by the guardians that Lord Mansel had an estate of £4,000 per annum and upwards.¹

The manner in which the Mansel estates passed to the Talbots requires some comment.

¹ "Historical Notices of the Parishes of Penrice, Oxwich, and Nicholaston, in the Rural Deanery of West Gower," by J. D. Davies. Part IV., pp. 327, 328, 330, 331, 332, 338.

JOHN IVORY TALBOT. Born 1672. Married Mary Mansel, daughter of
1st Lord Mansel in 1716. (*Penrice Collection.*)

[*face p.* 40]



Christopher, Lord Mansel, after his accession to the title and estates in January, 1744, made a will, dated May 17 in that year, in which, after providing for the payment of his debts, etc., in the usual terms, he bequeathed all his real estate to his brother Bussy, *for the term of his natural life*; then to the Rev. Thomas Talbot, son of his brother-in-law, John Ivory Talbot, and his heirs male; failing such heirs, to the first son of John Talbot, brother of Thomas, and his heirs; failing such heirs, to the other sons of John Talbot successively, in precedence of age. Lord Mansel also left £3,000 to Robert Marsham, Lord Romney, in trust for Mary, daughter of John Blackwood, Esq.¹ There are other legacies which are not of interest. The will was proved May 28, 1745.

The Talbots thus inherited the Mansel estates indirectly by marriage, and directly through testamentary decree—a fact which is perhaps not always recognised. Had Christopher, Lord Mansel left his real estate to Bussy Mansel and his heirs *absolutely*, it would have gone presumably, as in the case of Britton Ferry, to the Vernons, and ultimately to the Villiers, Earls of Jersey.

Lady Elizabeth (or Betty) Hervey, first wife of Bussy, Lord Mansel, was daughter of John Hervey, of Ickworth, Suffolk, by his second marriage with Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Thomas Felton. Hervey was created Earl of Bristol on the accession of George I., in 1714.

By this second marriage the Earl of Bristol had no less than sixteen children, of whom Lady Betty was the eleventh.

The Herveys came into possession of the manor of Ickworth through the marriage of Jane, sole heiress of Henry Drury, the former possessor, with Thomas Hervey, who died before 1470. Jane died before 1475.

Various members of the family of Hervey have been prominent as statesmen, etc. John, eldest son of Sir William (1616-1679) was

¹ This was the second Baron Romney; the first married Elizabeth, elder daughter and co-heir of Sir Cloudesley Shewell, whose sister married Christopher Lord Mansel's brother Robert, and afterwards John Blackwood, as already recorded. The Rev. J. D. Davies, alluding to this will, says: "Christopher, Lord Mansel, however, entitled the estates on his *non-residence*, the Rev. Thomas Talbot"—an extraordinary slip; on the opposite page is a sketch pedigree, setting forth the undoubted fact that Christopher died *without issue*.

a favourite of Charles II., and on the Restoration was appointed treasurer to the queen. Burnet, in his "History of my Own Time," relates how Hervey—who was M.P. for Hythe—voting upon one occasion adversely to the king's wishes, was afterwards severely rebuked by Charles. Next day, however, he voted in accordance with the royal desire. "You were not against me to-day," said the king that evening. "No, sir," replied Hervey, "I was against my conscience to-day"—a very pretty rejoinder, which Burnet tells us was "so gravely delivered, that the king seemed pleased." The consciences of kings' favourites have suffered severely in all ages; but the bald statement of the fact to the monarch's face is a rare incident.

John, eldest son of the first Earl of Bristol—commonly known as Lord Hervey, as he died before his father—was a very well-known character. He was addicted to the writing of verses, and was member for Bury St. Edmunds in 1725. He joined with William Pulteney (afterwards Earl of Bath) in opposition to Walpole; but upon the adoption of Walpole as his minister by George II., Hervey found it convenient to change sides, and was granted a pension of £1,000 a year. Hervey's pen got him into trouble with Pulteney, and they fought a duel, without damage on either side. He also had a deadly feud with Pope the poet, probably owing to their rivalry for the favours of Lady Mary Wortley Montagu.

Lady Betty, who married Bussy, Lord Mansel, was a great beauty, and also, if we may accept the testimony of her brother, Lord Hervey, a very admirable character.

There are many Hervey monuments in Ickworth church, and among them is the following, the panegyric in verse being written by Lord Hervey:

"Here lieth interred the Lady Elizabeth
Wife of the Honble Bussy Mansel,¹
And daughter of John Earl of Bristol,
Who died the 3rd Sept. 1727.

Vive pius : moriere pius : cole sacra colentem :
Mors gravis - templis in cava busta trahet."

"Beneath the covering of this little stone
Lie the poor shrunk yet dear remains of one

¹ Bussy Mansel did not succeed to the barony until 1744, seventeen years after Lady Betty's death.



CHRISTOPHER, 3^d LORD MANSEL.

Died 20 November, 1744.

With merit humble, and with virtue fair,
With knowledge modest, and with wit sincere.
Upright in all the social paths of life,
The friend, the daughter, sister, and the wife !
So just in disposition of her soul,
Nature left reason nothing to control :
Firm, pious, patient, affable of mind,
Happy in life, and yet in death resigned.
Just in the zenith of those golden days
When the mind ripens ere the form decays,
The hand of Fate untimely cut her thread,
And left the world to weep that virtue fled,
Its pride when living, and its grief when dead."

A very beautiful epitaph ; and who would ungenerously question its truth, or murmur "*de mortuis nil nisi bonum*" ? Bussy Mansel was obviously supremely fortunate in his first marriage, though it left him childless.

The present mansion at Ickworth Park was commenced about the year 1792, by Frederick Augustus, fourth Earl of Bristol, and Bishop of Derry in Ireland. He had taken holy orders, probably not expecting that, by the death of his two brothers without heirs, he would succeed to the earldom. It is said that he visited the crater of Vesuvius when a violent eruption was imminent, and being severely mauled by a falling stone, accepted the incident as a hint to study volcanic phenomena !

The mansion at Ickworth Park is a remarkable building ; the centre portion is a huge oval construction, one hundred and twenty by one hundred and six feet in plan, with a domed summit rising to the height of one hundred and five feet. From this centre two quadrantal wings extend some two hundred feet on either hand, joining a straight portion at either extremity of the south front.

The mansion contains many very valuable works of art, including a large number of reliefs illustrative of classical subjects, from the designs of John Flaxman.¹

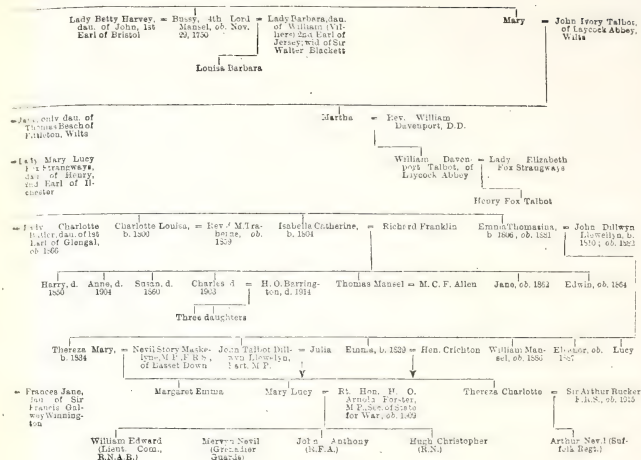
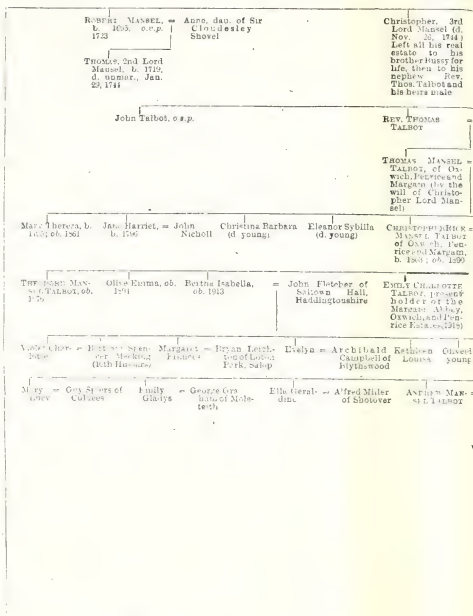
The passing of the Mansel estates to Miss Emily Charlotte Talbot, the present owner, is clearly indicated in the pedigree.

¹ "History of Suffolk : the Thingoe Hundred," by John Gage ; pp. 298 *et seq.*

THE PENRICE,
GENERAL ADDITIONS.

RICHARD MARY-
 SELL
 = Lucy, dau.
 of Philip Lord
 of 1823 Nov.
 Castle
 Lady Barbara, dau.
 of William Vill-
 herd, a baronet of
 Jersey, widow of Sir
 Walter Dickett
 Mary
 John Ivory Talbot,
 of Inceock Abbey,
 Wilt.
 Sir Henry Mares-
 sell of Inceock
 Castle, 1827
 = Isabel, dau.
 of 1828 Nov.
 Rev. John Barbara
 Oawshan
 Rice
 Sir Henry Mares-
 sell of Inceock
 and Penryn
 = Elizabeth, b.
 1828 Nov.
 Gilbert
 ville
 Marthe
 Rev. William
 Davenport, D.D.
 John Mares-
 sell, 1828 Nov.
 = Constance, dau.
 of William
 Davenport
 William Davenport
 = Lady Elizabeth
 Fox Strangways
 Peter Mares-
 sell of Oatland and Pen-
 ryn, 1828 Nov.
 = Nicholas, dau.
 of Elizabeth
 Henry Fox Talbot
 John Mares-
 sell of Oatland and Pen-
 ryn, 1828 Nov.
 = John, dau.
 of William
 Davenport
 Richard Franklin
 Emma, dau.
 of 1828 Nov.
 John Dillwyn
 1828 Nov.
 Sir Henry Mares-
 sell of Oatland and Pen-
 ryn, 1828 Nov.
 = Constance, dau.
 of William
 Davenport
 H. O. Baring-
 ton, d. 1841
 Thomas Mansel
 = M. C. F. Allen
 Jane, b. 1862
 Edwin, b. 1864
 Sir Henry Mares-
 sell of Oatland and Pen-
 ryn, 1828 Nov.
 = Lady John, dau.
 of John Talbot, b. 1828
 John Talbot, b. 1828
 Emma, b. 1828
 Hen. Crickton
 William Mansel, b. 1828
 Edward, b. 1828
 Mary, dau.
 of 1828 Nov.
 Ed. Hen. V. O.
 1828 Nov.
 Theresia Charlotte
 = Sir Arthur Barker,
 1828 Nov.
 Sir Henry Mares-
 sell of Oatland and Pen-
 ryn, 1828 Nov.
 = Mary, dau.
 of 1828 Nov.
 John, dau.
 of 1828 Nov.
 Henry, dau.
 of 1828 Nov.
 Sir Henry Mares-
 sell of Oatland and Pen-
 ryn, 1828 Nov.
 = Lady, dau.
 of 1828 Nov.
 Sir Henry Mares-
 sell of Oatland and Pen-
 ryn, 1828 Nov.
 = Mary, dau.
 of 1828 Nov.
 Sir Thomas Mares-
 sell of Oatland and Pen-
 ryn, 1828 Nov.
 = Mary, dau.
 of 1828 Nov.

DEVOLUTION OF THE PENRICE,
WITH SOME COLLATERAL ADDITIONS.



Lacock (or Laycock) Abbey, county Wilts, the property of the Talbots, was founded in 1232 by Ela, dowager Countess of Salisbury, widow of Longspé (familiar to readers of Shakespeare as "Longsword"), the natural son of Henry II. by Fair Rosamond. Tanner, in "*Notitia Monastica*," states that, on April 16 of that year, this pious lady laid the foundation of Lacock Abbey, for nuns, in the forenoon, and a monastery for Carthusian monks at Henton, Somerset, in the afternoon; the exact position of Henton is not clear, but Lacock is some eight or nine miles from the nearest point on the Somerset boundary: Countess Ela was evidently a very energetic lady. She was afterwards Abbess of Lacock.

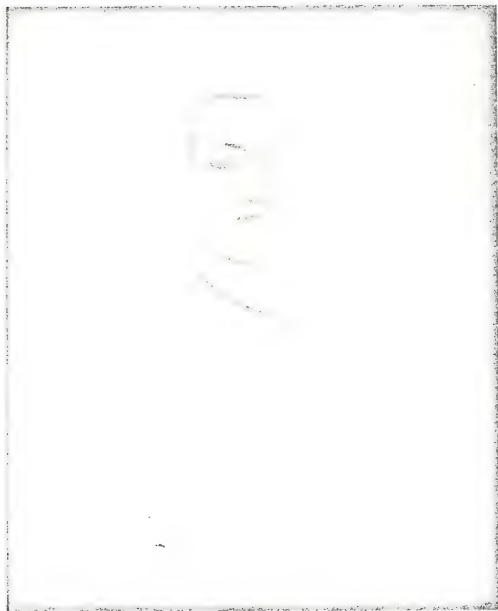
After the dissolution of the monasteries, Lacock Abbey was purchased, in 1541, by Sir William Sharrington (or Sherington); he was succeeded by his brother Henry, one of whose two daughters and co-heirs married John Talbot of Salwarpe, county Worcester.¹

In an account of the life and works of one Sanderson Müller, an architect of the eighteenth century, there is a good deal about Lacock Abbey, in the rebuilding of which Müller played an important part.

In 1754 he wrote: "I believe there is not a religious house in England better preserved; it has been inhabited ever since the Dissolution by Sir Wm. Sharrington (who, by the way, was the man who made restitution to King Edward VI. on account of Latimer's sermon) and the Talbots. There are many curiosities here, particularly Magna Charta and Henry III.'s Great Seal quite fair and compleat, and directed at the back to the Sheriff of Wilts, who at that time was Ela the Foundress of Lacock,"² and there it has been

¹ Sir William Sharrington was vice-treasurer of the Mint at Bristol, and appears to have misused his office in the perpetration of extensive frauds, to his own great enrichment. He persisted in the coining of "testons," or shillings, two-thirds of which were alloy, in spite of official prohibition, and made about £1,000 in three years by the clipping and shearing of coins, falsifying the books of the Mint to conceal his transactions. He was at length detected and arrested; but, throwing himself on the king's (Edward VI.) mercy, was ultimately pardoned and restored. He is said to have been described by Latimer in a sermon as "an honest gentleman and one that God loveth"; upon which he made restitution of some property!

² This is confirmed in Harte's "*History of Modern Wiltshire*."



THE REV. THOMAS TALBOT, SON OF JOHN IVORY TALBOT
BY HIS MARRIAGE WITH MARY, DAUGHTER OF THE
1ST LORD MANSELL.

ever since. There are the old ledger books of the Nunnery and the nuns' great pot, as big as that at Warwick; it holds 4 gallons less, viz., 92 gallons. Mr. Talbot has set it upon a pedestal in his garden (an inscription shows it was made at Mechlin in 1500) and it is not a bad conceit. He says the bell metal is worth £80. There is a great salting-trough which belonged to the nuns, 16 feet long and 4 feet wide, etc. But what pleased me best was a noble picture of Charles I. by Vandyke at full length with Sir T. Warwick as a page. He has another picture of the King's family just like your brother's little one, and a fine Henry VIII. by Holbein."¹

Sanderson Miller was employed by Mr. Talbot to rebuild the great hall, and upon sundry other works of embellishment, etc., about the abbey; he appears to have been a very successful and popular architect, but by no means a genius, as some of his suggestions and designs carried out at the instance of Mr. Talbot clearly demonstrate. The great hall at Lacock Abbey is not, at least exteriorly, a building which would be expected to add to the fame of any architect.

The ancient treasures and curiosities mentioned by Miller remain at Lacock Abbey to this day.

It will be recollected that Robert Fitzhamon, when he conquered Glamorgan, bestowed upon Sir William Esterling, or Stradling, the manor and castle of St. Donat's, as a reward for his services in the Conquest.²

The Stradlings, as will be seen in the pedigree, twice intermarried with the Mansels of Margam, and the widow of Sir Edward Stradling likewise married a Mansel.

St. Donat's lies on the south coast of Glamorgan, about fifteen miles south-east from Cardiff. Samuel Lewis, writing in the year 1849, says—"The castle is situated on the sea-coast, and is an extensive pile of building, occupying a spacious quadrangle, over the gate leading into which are the arms of the Stradlings; part of it is

¹ "An Eighteenth-Century Correspondence," edited by Lilian Dickins and Mary Stanton; p. 299.

² See Vol. i., p. 204.

habitable, and in the later style of English architecture. The park lies to the west of it; the gardens are on the south, between the walls of the castle and the sea, and are formed on terraces descending to the shore of the Bristol Channel, of which they command a fine view. Within the park is a quadrangular watch tower of lofty elevation and picturesque appearance, which, according to local tradition, was erected for observing vessels in distress, not for the purpose of rendering assistance, but with a view to take immediate possession of the wreck. In the neighbourhood is a cave of considerable extent and grandeur, accessible at low water."¹

Lewis further states that: "The lordship of St. Donat's was given by Fitzhamon to Sir William le Esterling, or Stradling, in the possession of whose descendants it continued without interruption for more than six hundred years, until the decease of Sir Edward (Thomas?) Stradling, Bart., at Montpelier, in 1738."

Mr. George T. Clark, however, entirely dissents from this account; he says: "St. Donat's, which has long been connected with the Stradling name, probably belonged, soon after the entrance of Fitzhamon, to the family of Marcross, whose fee bordered on St. Donat's."²

He then assigns possession of St. Donat's to the De Alweia, or Hawey family, of Somerset, until, in the reign of Edward III., Joan, daughter and heir of Thomas de Hawey, married Sir Peter Stradling. Mr. Clark does not give references for these various statements, but says, speaking of this Sir Peter, "the first of the name appearing in Glamorgan records."

This may be very true, inasmuch as the records to which Mr. Clark had access contained no earlier information concerning the connection of the Stradling family with St. Donat's; but it is impossible to ignore the testimony already adduced³ as to the bestowal of St. Donat's by Robert Fitzhamon upon Sir William Stradling, after

¹ "Topographical Dictionary of Wales," by Samuel Lewis. Vol. i., p. 316.

² "Limbus Patrum Morganæ," by Geo. T. Clark; p. 434. Marcross is about five miles westward from St. Donat's.

³ See Vol. i., *ut supra*.

ELIZABETH MANSEL, daughter of Sir Edward Mansel, Bart. Born 1674.
Married Sir Edward Stradling. (*Penrice Collection*.)

[*face p. 48*]



the conquest of Glamorgan; nor is it possible to form any conjecture as to the ground of Mr. Clark's opinion that it "probably belonged, soon after the entrance of Fitzhamon, to the family of Marcross"; it appears far more probable that it belonged to Sir William Stradling.

However, the intermediate steps of the family pedigree are somewhat obscure; there is no doubt that St. Donat's belonged to Sir Edward Stradling early in the fourteenth century, when his name appears in State Records as "of St. Donat's," and thenceforward the descent is clear.

The Stradlings were very prominent in Glamorgan for many generations, all successively holding important offices, as sheriffs, escheators, etc.; three were Knights of the Sepulchre, and one Sir Edward was knighted in the church of Tournay, under the royal banner, by Henry VIII.¹

Sir Thomas, son of this Edward, was brought into somewhat prominent notice by reason of his staunch adherence to his old faith, and his strong opposition to the assumption by the sovereign of the headship of the Church in England. His attitude in this respect was emphasised by the lively interest he displayed in an incident which occurred or was alleged to have occurred, in his own grounds at St. Donat's, in 1559.

A large ash-tree was broken by a gale, and it is stated that there was a remarkable semblance of a cross displayed on the face of the fracture. This is by no means an impossible or even a very improbable story; the growth of successive layers of fibre in a tree frequently assumes, upon cutting or breaking the trunk, a fantastic form, which may readily be likened to some more or less familiar object. Probably most people are aware of the form of a squat, sturdy oak-tree which is displayed upon cutting through the thick part of the stem of a large fern.

However, Sir Thomas, enthusiastic for his faith, hailed this *lusus nature* as a protest against the belittling of the Cross, which Catholics were unjustly accused of elevating to the position of an

¹ "Letters and Papers of the Reign of Henry VIII." Vol. i., p. 676.

idol ; and he caused pictures to be made of the cross in the trunk of the ash-tree—pictures which probably exaggerated the resemblance to the sacred Symbol. For this he was arrested and sent to the Tower. On June 5, 1561, he petitioned for his release ; and in 1570 he gave his bond for his personal appearance when called upon,¹ though there is reason to believe that he had been liberated some years previously.

Sir John Stradling was one of the baronets created under James I., in 1611, upon the institution of that order, being fifth in precedence.

Sir John's son Edward, successor in the title, married Mary, daughter of Sir Thomas Mansel, first baronet of Margam ; and Sir Edward Stradling, great-grandson of the above, married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Edward Mansel, fourth baronet ; while Bussy Mansel married Katherine, daughter of Sir Hugh Perry, and widow of a former Sir Edward Stradling.²

Sir Thomas Stradling, 1710-1738, was the last of the line, dying unmarried at Montpellier, in the south of France. Administration of his estate was granted, December 15, 1738, to Hon. Christopher Mansel and Bussy, afterwards fourth Baron Mansel, the latter holding the estates during his lifetime. At his death there was a series of lawsuits concerning the disposition of the estates, which was finally decided by Act of Parliament, St. Donat's being awarded to Sir John la Fontaine Tyrwhit. It eventually passed to J. Herbert Williams, Esq., J.P., the present owner.³

¹ Cal. State Papers, Dom., 1547-1580 ; pp. 176, 361.

² There is among the Penrice and Margam MSS. the draft of a deed of settlement on the approaching marriage of Sir Edward Stradling with Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Edward Mansel ; it is dated September 3, 1694. (Third Series, p. 14, no. 1143.)

³ In Collinson's *History of Somerset*, vol. iii., p. 335, he says : " Sir William de Esterling, the first who came to England, was one of those knights who in 1090 attended Robert Fitz-Hamon, Earl of Gloucester, in his expedition into Wales against Prince Rhese, and for his services therein obtained of that prince (knight ?) the castle and manor of St. Donat's in Glamorganshire, which became the principal seat of his descendants. Sir John his son succeeded him and . . . had issue Sir Maurice . . . which Sir Maurice was father of Sir Robert, who first wrote his name Stradling . . . he had issue Sir Gilbert Stradling, father of Sir William, grandfather of Sir John, and great-grandfather of Sir Peter Stradling, who married the heiress of Hawey." This fills up some gaps, but it is somewhat vague, and no authorities are cited.

The annexed pedigree is of interest, as showing the inter-marriages of the Mansel, Stradling, and Bowen families. The Bowens do not appear in most other pedigrees; this one accounts for one of Arthur Mansel's daughters, who married Charles Bowen of Kettlehill, whose son married a daughter of Sir Edward Stradling, third baronet, and grand-daughter of Mary, daughter of Sir Thomas Mansel, first baronet of Margam.¹

The Bowens were of Welsh descent, of Court House and Kittle (or Kettle) Hill in Gower. They had intermarried in previous generations with the Dawkins of Cilvrough (or Kilvrough), who were also connected by marriage with the Mansels of Trimsaren, as will be shown in due course. George Bowen, father-in-law of Elizabeth Mansel, married a daughter of Thomas ap William Lloyd, of Altycadno, whose family also intermarried with the Trimsaren Mansels.

Edward Mansel of Swansea mentions in his will—dated 1694—Charles, son of George Bowen of Kittle Hill; this was, no doubt, the son of George Bowen and Jane Stradling, who died in 1751, and who would at this date have been eighteen years of age.

There was another Charles Bowen, of Lower Gower, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Wm. Price of Britton Ferry; but not the sister of Jane Price, who married Arthur Mansel, unless she was twice married. This Charles appears among the Bowens "unplaced" by Mr. G. T. Clark.²

The pedigree is introduced for the purpose, as has already been stated, of showing the Stradling-Bowen connections: the genealogy of the baronets and barons of Margam, as given therein, is obviously valueless.

¹ See Penrice and Margam Abbey Manuscripts, Second Series, p. 113. The pedigree apparently dates from about the middle of the eighteenth century. Bussy Lord Mansel's daughter, Louisa Barbara, was evidently unmarried at the time; she was married in 1757; while the death of Charles Bowen of Oystermouth is recorded in 1751.

² "Limbus Patrum Morganiae," by G. T. Clark; pp. 228, 513, 514.

THE MANSEL, STRADLING, AND BOWEN FAMILIES

SIR EDWARD MANSEL of Margam, Knt. = Lady Jane Somerset, dau. to Henry, Earl of Worcester

MARY, dau. to Lewis, Lord Mordaunt = SIR THOMAS MANSEL of Margam, Knt. and Bart. = Jane, dau. to — Pole of Lincolnshire, Esq.

SIR LEWIS MANSEL of Margam, Knt. and Bart. = Elizabeth, dau. to Henry Montague, Earl of Manchester

ARTHUR MANSEL, Esq. = Jane, dau. and co-heir to Wm. Pryce of Britton Ferry, Esq.

SIR EDWARD MANSEL of Margam, Bart. = Martha, dau. to Edward Carne of Ewenny, Esq.

BUSBY MANSEL, of Britton Ferry, Esq., married April 17, 1646

Catherine, dau. to Sir Hugh Perry, and widow of Sir Edward Stradling, who died Sept. 3, 1695

Elizabeth, dau. of Arthur, etc. = CHARLES BOWEN, of Kettlehill, Esq.

SIR THOMAS MANSEL, Bt., afterwards Thomas, Lord Mansel = Martha, dau. to Francis Millington of the City of London, Esq.

THOMAS MANSEL, Esq. = Elizabeth, dau. and sole heir to Richard Games of Pen-dery in Brecon-shire, Esq.

SIR EDWARD STRADLING of St. Donat's Castle, Bart. = MARY

The late BUSBY, LORD MANSEL = The Lady Barbara Villiers, dau. of William Villiers, Earl of Jersey

THOMAS MANSEL of Britton Ferry, Esq., who died unmarried

SIR EDWARD STRADLING of St. Donat's Castle, Bart. = Catherine, dau. to Sir Hugh Perry, Knt., Alderman of London, who survived Sir Edward S., and afterwards married Mr. Busby Mansel of Britton Ferry, April 17, 1646

The Honourable Miss LOUISA BARBARA MANSEL

GEORGE BOWEN of Kettlehill, Esq. = JANE, dau. to Sir Edward Stradling, of St. Donat's Castle, Bart., born April 28, 1642

SIR EDWARD STRADLING of St. Donat's Castle, Bart., who married Nov. 20, 1667 = Elizabeth, dau. to William Hungerford of Somersetshire, Esq.

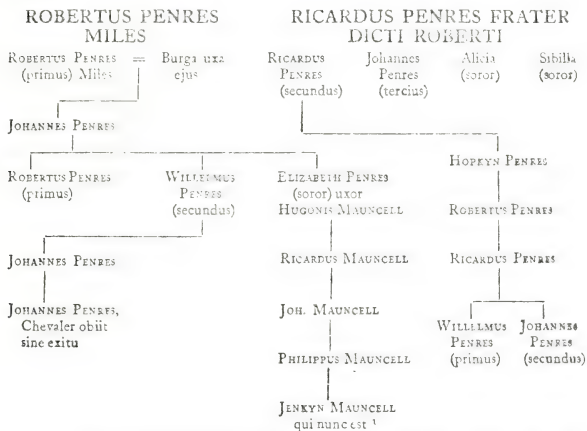
The late CHARLES BOWEN of Oystermouth, Esq., who died without issue, born Aug. 19, 1676, died July 8, 1751

ELIZABETH, dau. to Sir Edward Mansel of Margam, Bart. = SIR EDWARD STRADLING of St. Donat's Castle, Bart.

The late SIR THOMAS STRADLING, Bart., who died unmarried.

There is an old pedigree of Penrice and Mansel among the Margam Abbey MSS., which is here transcribed; it is interesting from one point of view, namely, the spelling of the name—*Mauncell*—throughout.

The pedigree is prefaced as follows: "Robertus Penres Miles dedit Maneria de Penres et Porteynon Johanni Penres et heredibus de corpore suo procreatis, qui quidem Johannes Penres habuit exitum Robertum Penres, qui habuit exitum Johannem Penres, qui habuit exitum Johannem Penres Militem. This is proved by a recorde and jugement hadde by the said John Penres knyght of the said maners ayens Thomas ap Rees ap Gr., which record restith of record in the Chekere at Swaynesey anno XXII Ricardi Secundi (1398). Serche amonges the evydenes y trust ye shall fynde the dede of entaille of the seid Robert Penres knyght to John his son."



This pedigree was made out, as will be noticed, during the life of Jenkyn Mauncell, "qui nunc est"; i.e., between about 1450 and 1510.

¹ Penrice and Margam MSS., Series II., pp. 109, 110, no. 549.

54 THE MAUNSELL (MANSEL) FAMILY

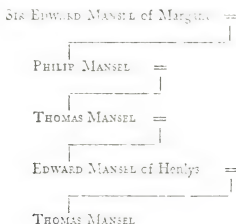
Dr. William Lort Mansel, Bishop of Bristol and Master of Trinity College, Cambridge, was a man very well known in his day ; and as he came of the Margam branch of the family it is fitting that some account of him should appear in the present chapter.

There appears, however, to be some little question regarding Dr. Mansel's derivation.

Mr. R. G. Maunsell (p. 20) has a footnote, with reference to the marriage of Hugh, second son of Jenkyn Mansel, with Jane, daughter of Richard Wogan of Kent, as follows : " The Rt. Rev. Wm. Lort Mansel, Bishop of Bristol, was most probably a descendant of Hugh Mansel by his wife Jane Wogan."

This hypothesis appears to be based solely upon the fact that Bishop Mansel's father was William Wogan Mansel ; it may be dismissed as unjustifiable.

Lieutenant Mansel-Pleydell, in his pedigree, derives Dr. Mansel from Philip, sixth (?) son of Sir Edward Mansel of Margam, but acknowledges uncertainty in respect of two steps :



" Thomas Mansel was probably the grandfather of William Wogan Mansel, of Pembroke, who married Anne, daughter of Major Roger Lort, Royal Welsh Fusiliers, and had issue : William Lort Mansel," etc.¹

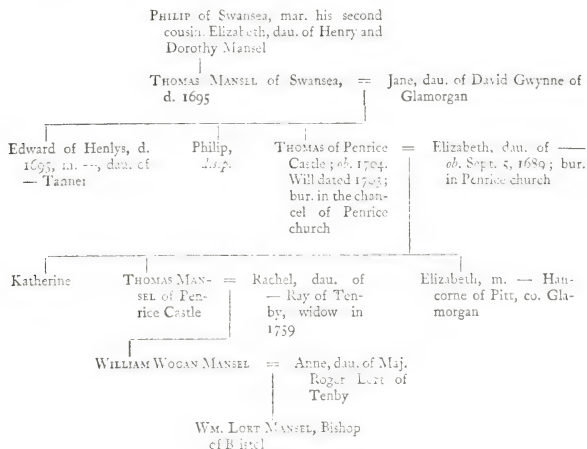
The living descendants of Bishop Mansel are, however, quite confident on the subject, and give his ancestry as follows (this pedigree is supplied by S. W. S. Mansel-Carey, Esq., of Uppingham

¹ *Ibid* vol. i., pp. 251-252.



MARTHA MANSEL, DAUGHTER OF 1ST LORD MANSEL.
MARRIED REV. MORGAN THOMAS.

School, a great-grandson of Bishop Mansel, who adopted the prefix of Mansel to his name about eleven years ago).



(Some collateral connections are omitted, as they are not material to the matter at issue.)

The parentage of William Wogan Mansel is vouched for by the following entry in the Tenby register: "Wm. Wogan Mansel, son of Thomas Mansel, Esq. and Rachel his wife, was bapd 28 March, 1728."

The father of this Thomas is the weak link in the chain; Lieutenant Mansel-Pleydell cannot vouch for him, beyond the probability that he was Thomas, grandson of Sir Edward of Margam.

The above pedigree may, however, be accepted as probably correct, though it cannot be said to be established by adequate proof.

In addition to the entry from the Tenby register above quoted, it contains the following, some of which confirm the pedigree:

56 THE MAUNSELL (MANSEL) FAMILY

Mary, the wife of Alderman Ray, was buried January 7, 1724.

Thomas Mansel, junr., was buried March 31, 1730.

Humphrey Ray (Alderman) was buried December 13, 1738.

Thomas Mansel, the son of Mr. Robert Mansel, and Betty his wife, was baptised September 24, 1744.

Mrs. Rachel Mansel (widow) was buried March 17, 1767.

Mr. William Mansel (doctor) was buried October 15, 1782.

William Lort Mansel was born at Pembroke April 2, 1753 ; he was educated at the Gloucester Grammar School, admitted a pensioner at Trinity College, Cambridge, January 2, 1770, graduated B.A. 1774, M.A. 1777, and D.D. in 1798. His college appointments were : scholar, April 26, 1771 ; junior fellow, 1775 ; full fellow, 1777 ; sub-lector secundus, 1777-8 ; lector linguæ Latinæ, 1781 ; lector primarius, 1782 ; lector linguæ Græcæ, 1783 ; junior dean, 1782-3 and 1785 ; and catechist, April 9, 1787. He was ordained June 30, 1783, was recommended by Trinity College to the Bishop of Ely for the sequestration of the living of Bottisham, near Cambridge ; and was presented by his college, November 6, 1788, to the Vicarage of Chesterton, Cambridgeshire (now incorporated in the borough of Cambridge).

It is apparent, from the above list of offices held by him, that Mansel soon came to the front as a man of unusual capacity ; he was also distinguished by his aptitude at witty and epigrammatic sayings, many of which have been recorded by various friends and admirers ; and Mansel was a man of many friends.

Among his junior contemporaries at Trinity College were William Frederick, Duke of Gloucester,¹ and Spencer Perceval, afterwards prime minister, with whom he maintained a close friendship to the last, and who were always ready to exercise their influence on his behalf ; he numbered among his friends and acquaintances nearly all the prominent men of his time, including William Pitt.

Mansel was a man of quick intelligence, keen observation,

¹ William Frederick (1776-1834), second Duke of Gloucester, only son of William Henry, first Duke of Gloucester of the last generation, who was third son of Frederick Louis, Prince of Wales. William Frederick married Mary, fourth daughter of George III.

and independent mind ; also of courage and determination, of which the following anecdotes afford some illustration. They are related by his granddaughter, Mary Isabella Peacock.

" It was quite early in Dr. Mansel's married life, that one evening, when he was sitting with his young wife in the Vicarage at Chesterton, a shot was fired through the window, happily without hurting either of them. Dr. Mansel exclaimed, ' Those fellows came from Cambridge, and will go back there,' and at once, notwithstanding his wife's entreaties, he started off in pursuit. He soon came up with two men, and heard them say that they had given the parson a fright, etc. Dr. Mansel instantly collared them, and with one in his right hand and one in his left he marched them into Cambridge, and left them safely lodged in the lock-up there. The men were so cowed by his coolness and determination that they made no resistance. Another anecdote from the same source shows the fearlessness and strength of his character. Once when there was a ' town and gown ' row, or an election riot, some person or persons who had excited the anger of the mob took refuge within the gates of Trinity College. The crowd of roughs were soon raging before the closed gates, and demanded that the offending party should be given up to them. This was of course refused, and they began battering the doors and threatened to beat them in if their demand was not at once complied with. In the meanwhile Dr. Mansel, who was then Master, was with the Fellows and others of the college inside, and vainly tried what persuasion would do ; but as the mob only became more furious, he determined to go out and try and reason with them. This the Fellows strenuously opposed, saying he would undoubtedly be killed or injured, and they kept on urging him to stay within the gates, and not expose himself to the fury of the mob. At last he got angry, and commanded them on their obedience to him, as Master of the College, to desist. Then he ordered the porter to open the small gate and let him out, immediately bolting it behind him. This was done, and alone he faced the excited crowd, perfectly fearless and undaunted. By his eloquence or powers of persuasion, after a short time he got them to disperse peaceably and quietly, and moreover they were so pleased with

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his bravery that they cheered him very heartily as they went off."

Certainly, a very unusual success with a "town and gown" or electioneering mob, who are not much addicted to listening quietly to such an appeal. From several allusions, it appears that Mansel had a powerful and resonant voice, which always carries weight, whether in a public oration or upon such an occasion as the above.

Of Dr. Mansel's originality, and independence of the shackles of ordinary usage, the following entry in the register at Bottisham affords an example:

Soame Jenyns, in the 83rd year of
his age,
What his literary character was
The world hath already judged for itself;
But it remains for his parish-minister
to do his duty
by declaring
That while he registers the burial of
Soame Jenyns,
he regrets the loss of one of the most
Amiable of men,
And one of the truest Christians.
To the parish of Bottisham he is an
irreparable loss.
He was buried in this Church, December 27 (1787)
near midnight,
By William Lort Mansel, sequestrator;
Who thus transgresses the common forms
of a Register,
Merely because he thinks it to be
The most solemn and lasting method
of recording to posterity,
That the finest understanding
has been united
to the best heart.¹

The writing of the entry in the form of a monumental inscription, by way of emphasising its import, is quite characteristic of Dr. Mansel. Why the burial should have been performed near midnight does not appear; perhaps it is another instance of Mansel's originality.

Of Dr. Mansel's witty sallies and epigrams many specimens are extant.

¹ "The English Portion of the Library of the Venible Francis Wrangham"; p. 206.
Soame Jenyns (1704-1787), of Bottisham Hall, a miscellaneous writer of note in his time.

He had not been long resident at Trinity College when, entering the rooms of a friend who was absent, he saw upon the table a paper containing the first two lines of what was perhaps intended to be a sentimental effusion in verse:

"The sun's perpendicular heat
Illumined the depths of the sea ;"

Mansel took up the pen and completed the stanza thus :

"The fishes, beginning to sweat,
Cried Damn it, how hot we shall be !"¹

When Dr. Watson, who had at one time been a tutor of Trinity, was made Bishop of Llandaff, a worthy publican in Cambridge, who had for his sign "Bishop Blaise"—whoever he may have been—upon the promotion of Dr. Watson substituted his head for that of Blaise. Mansel appears to have had some grudge against Watson, and perpetrated the following somewhat ill-natured epigram :

"Two of a trade can ne'er agree,
No proverb ere was truer ;
They've taken down Bishop Blaise, you see,
And put up Bishop Bunter."

Mansel's witticisms, it must be admitted, were most commonly displayed at the expense of some person whom he exposed more or less to ridicule.

When Dr. Jowett, Master of Trinity Hall, had an unsightly angle at the entrance fenced off and planted with flowers, but subsequently, finding the little garden was the subject of some ridicule, laid the space with gravel, Mansel was down upon him as follows :

"A little garden little Jowett made,
And fenced it with a little palisade ;
Because this garden caused a little talk,
He changed it to a little gravel walk.
And now, if more you'd know of little Jowett,
This little garden won't a little show it."

¹ These four lines were somehow familiar to young naval officers forty or fifty years ago. They had not the least idea of the origin of the verse, but perhaps it appealed to their natural sense of humour. It was not infrequently recited, perhaps during especially hot, glaring calm at sea—or at other times, it gave to nothing in particular. Possibly it is still in vogue in the Navy, though the experience of rolling about in a hot calm, with flapping canvas, has become a thing of the past.

One day Dr. Mansel met two undergraduates of his college, who passed him without paying the respect due to their master by raising their caps. He stopped them, and enquired if they knew him; they flippantly replied that they really did not. "How long have you been in college, then?" he said. "Only eight days," they answered. "That accounts for your blindness," the master replied; "puppies never see till they are nine days old."

Upon one occasion, however, a scholar of Trinity "scored" off the master very neatly. The well-kept grass of the quadrangle was supposed to be sacred, and forbidden to undergraduate feet. Mansel often observed, from the window of the Lodge, a certain gentleman persistently disregard this law, and one day he threw up the window at which he always sat, and hailed the culprit. "Sir, I never look out of my window but I see you walking across the grass plot." "My lord," replied the offender, promptly, "I never walk across the grass plot but I see you looking out of your window."

Such an audacious reply might well have got the undergraduate into serious trouble; but Mansel was too good a sportsman to resent such a ready thrust; he shut down the window, convulsed with laughter, and the young man, no doubt, went on his way rejoicing. It is not everyone who has the chance of scoring off a bishop, or the readiness and audacity to avail himself of it.

The bishop, on another occasion, appears to have received a rebuke, perhaps not unmerited, for a somewhat arrogant assertion of his nobility—if the story be true. It is related by the late J. W. Clark, of Cambridge. "Sir Busick Harwood, Professor of Anatomy, between whom and Mansel there had been a feud of long standing, gave a breakfast in the garden of his house, near Emmanuel College. Being anxious to show every consideration to the great man, he placed a young nobleman, who was at the time an undergraduate of Trinity, at the same table, unconscious or oblivious of the fact that it was sacrilege to bring a human being so low in the social scale of the University 'between the wind and his nobility.' Before breakfast was half over Mansel got up suddenly, ordered his carriage, and took his leave. Next morning Lady Harwood entreated her husband to go to Trinity Lodge and enquire whether he was ill, or whether

they had unconsciously offended him in any way. Sir Busick found Mansel in his study. 'I have come, my Lord, on the part of myself and Lady Harwood, to enquire——' began the professor. Before he could finish his sentence, Mansel thundered out, 'Sir Busick, I am a peer of the realm—God knows how unworthy!' 'God knows, and so do I,' said the other, and vanished."

According to the Dictionary of National Biography (under Harwood) the quarrel between Sir Busick and Dr. Mansel arose in connection with some portraits in water-colour. The professor, apparently, was always pestering his friends to sit to one Harding, whose small portraits were exhibited in Harwood's room, six or eight in a frame—an irritating kind of fad, certainly. The quarrel between the bishop and the professor appears to have had the unexpected result of the despatch of a challenge from the latter to Sir Isaac Pennington, the Regius Professor of Physic, who, however, took no notice of it. The bearer of Sir Busick's defiance was an undergraduate, and naturally the incident did not long remain a secret.¹

Lord Byron, who was at Trinity taking his degree in 1808, wrote, in "Thoughts suggested by a College Examination," the following lines in allusion to Dr. Mansel:

"High in the midst, surrounded by his peers,
Magnus his ample front sublime appears;
Placed on his chair of state, he seems a god,
While septs, and freshmen tremble at his nod.
As all around sit wrapp'd in speechless gloom,
His voice in thunder shakes the sounding dome,
Denouncing dire reproach to luckless fools
Unskilful to plod in mathematic rules."

Lord Byron thought fit to affix a note to this passage: "No reflection is here intended against the person mentioned under the name of Magnus. Indeed, such an attempt could only recoil upon myself, as the gentleman is now as much distinguished by his eloquence as he was in former days for wit and conviviality."

Dr. Mansel was, however, something a good deal more than a

¹ If the bishop actually made use of the expression alluded to him, "I am a peer of the realm," he displayed a lamentable ignorance of his own status. Bishops and peers of the realm are "Spiritual Lords of England." The former tends to discount the credibility of the anecdote.

dealer in epigrams ; he was a good scholar and linguist, and a kind and wise dispenser of such patronage as came in his way.

He was appointed Master of Trinity College by Pitt, upon Perceval's recommendation, on May 25, 1798, in order, it is stated, that his strong discipline might correct some abuses which had crept in ; and on this occasion he was warmly backed up by his friend and former pupil, the Duke of Gloucester, as the following letter shows :

" Canterbury,
May 8, 1798.

" DEAR SIR,

" I had the pleasure to receive your letter of the 6th this morning, and was much concerned at hearing of the death of my old friend Dr. Postlethwaite.¹ I have now to answer you that I *immediately* wrote to Mr. Pitt to ask him to give you the Mastership of Trinity, and that if you do not succeed to it, it will not be from want of exertion or sincere good wishes on my part. I think no person should be appointed to that situation but a member of the College, and I can fairly say that I think you are the properest person for it.

" I am ever, with great regard,

" Dear Sir,

" Yours very sincerely,

" WILLIAM FREDERICK."

King George also expressed his satisfaction at Mansel's appointment in the following letter to Mr. Pitt :

" Windsor,

May 13, 1798.

" It gives me infinite satisfaction to find Mr. Pitt can recommend on the vacancy of Master of Trinity College a person according to the character he gives me of Dr. Mansel, so exactly qualified to fill that arduous and honourable station. I flatter myself this appointment will restore discipline in that great seminary, and a more correct attachment to the Church of England and the British Constitution, than the young men educated there for some time have been supposed to possess.—G. R."

Dr. Mansel's correspondence bears witness to the number and intimacy of his friendships with men and women of distinction, and of the high estimation in which he was held by them. Among others

¹ Thomas Postlethwaite was Master of Trinity from 1789 until his death, May 4, 1798.

are letters from William Pitt (the younger), expressed in affectionate terms. Pitt was a not infrequent visitor at Trinity Lodge, and the sofa upon which he habitually sat was much valued, and preserved as an heirloom by Mrs. Lord Mansel, the bishop's daughter, who always called it "Pitt's sofa."

With Spencer Perceval Dr. Mansel was on even more intimate and affectionate terms, though Perceval was not, as has been alleged, his pupil at Trinity College. When the news of Perceval's tragic death was suddenly communicated to Mansel, the shock was so severe that he became temporarily deaf, and did not recover his normal power of hearing for more than a year.¹

The Rev. Charles Simeon, a well-known clergyman of Cambridge, and a Dean of King's College, wrote to Mansel in 1818 on behalf of a young student of Trinity; his letter is very expressive of admiration for Mansel's character, and confidence in his kindness—which was not misplaced, as the bishop's very cordial reply shows.

That Dr. Mansel was regarded as an appreciative judge of literature is demonstrated by letters from him to Hannah More² and George Crabbe, the poet, acknowledging the receipt of copies of their works. The book which was sent to him by Hannah More, in 1819, was "*Moral Sketches of Prevailing Opinions of Manners, Foreign and Domestic, with Reflections on Prayer*," and the bishop writes as follows:

"Trinity Lodge,
"September 8, 1819.

"MADAM,

Having been very much indisposed of late, I have been unable until now to say how much gratified and honoured I am by receiving from yourself a copy of your incomparable '*Moral Sketches*.' I wish I knew how sufficiently to express the estimation in which I hold any attention from you, to whom the world has so long looked up for instruction, and by whom it has been so ably and

¹ Spencer Perceval, statesman (1762-1812), was shot dead in the lobby of the House of Commons on May 11, 1812, by a bankrupt, probably of disordered brain, named Bellingham, who imagined that he had a grievance against the Government. He was hanged.

² Hannah More, religious writer (1745-1833); her writings are all of the evangelical kind and would not be acceptable save among a minority, at the present day; but they display a high religious purpose, combined with strong common sense.

eloquently taught, that there is something far beyond a name in religion and virtue. My veneration for you, madam, is infinitely too great to allow me anything like an approach to flattery, and I am convinced that I do but speak the language of the better part of the world, when I say that you have indeed used the ten talents with which God has been pleased to entrust you, to a great and glorious end, that you have made them exclusively subservient to His honour and service, and during a life of unvarying attention to the best interests and happiness of your fellow creatures, have, at least as much as anyone now living, laboured to bring many to Salvation. . . . It is therefore to be humbly hoped that those talents so employed for the best and noblest purposes in this life, will be the source of endless felicity to you in another. With the most respectful and sincere wishes of my family and myself for the continuance of a life so essential to the furtherance of everything good, I have the honour to remain, my dear Madam,

"Your very faithful, obedient and humble servant,
"W. L. BRISTOL."¹

Mansel's letter to Crabbe² is as follows :

"Trinity Lodge, Cambridge.
"Oct. 29, 1807.

"DEAR SIR,

I could not resist the pleasure of going completely through your delightful poems, before I returned you, as I now do, my best thanks for so truly valuable a proof of your remembrance. The testimony of my opinion is but of small importance when set by the side of those which have been already given on this occasion to our Standard National Poet, but I must be allowed to say that so much have I been delighted with the perusal of the incomparable descriptions which you have laid before me, with the easiness and purity of the diction, the knowledge of life and manners, and the vividness of that imagination which could produce and so well sustain and keep up such charming scenes, that I have found it to be almost the only book of late times which I could read through without making it a sort of duty to do so. Once more, dear sir, accept of my best thanks for this very flattering remembrance of me, and be assured of my being, with much regard,

"Your faithful, etc.
"W. L. MANSEL."

¹ This letter is to be found in the *Life of Hannah More*, by William Roberts.

² George Crabbe, poet (1754-1832); the volume which he presented to Dr. Mansel was probably that containing "The Parish Register" and some other poems, which was published in 1807.

CHRISTOPHER RICE MANSEL-TALBOT, M.P. Born 1803, died Jan., 1890.

Painted by George Hayter, 1834. (*Penrice Collection.*)



These letters are certainly appreciative enough ; if that addressed to Hannah More errs somewhat on the side of fulsome-ness, no one will be disposed to cavil at Dr. Mansel's eulogy of the delightful, and, as he says, incomparable lines of George Crabbe.

Dr. Mansel was vice-chancellor of Cambridge University for the year 1799-1800 ; and on October 30, 1808, was consecrated Bishop of Bristol, on the selection of his friend Spencer Perceval, then prime minister ; who also, in his capacity as chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, presented Mansel to the rich rectory of Barwick-in-Elmet, in Yorkshire¹—so the bishop became a very comfortable pluralist.

Dr. Mansel married, on January 20, 1789, at Cambridge, Isabella, eldest daughter of John Haggerston, Esq., of St. Rhadegund's Manor, Cambridge. The marriage is said to have been a very happy one. Mrs. Mansel died on April 2, 1803, some three weeks after the birth of twins, who died in infancy. In their fourteen years of married life they had thirteen children (including two sets of twins), nine of whom lived to grow up.

Thus widowed after a comparatively short span of matrimony, Mansel devoted himself to his young children, the eldest only fourteen years of age.

The reminiscences of a member of the college contain the following allusion to the bishop and his family : " Wide open to my view lay the walks of St. John's and Trinity, the Cam winding its devious way down to Ely ; . . . and close under my window the Master's gardens and the Fellows' bowling-green. Many hours of pleasurable recreation have I and my friends bewildered over these scenes. The sweet and ever amiable daughters of Dr. Mansel, Bishop of Bristol and Master of the College, in their playful and lamb-like antics, whilst meandering the beautiful shrubberies of the garden—their affectionate fondling with the fine venerable old widower, I oft mused upon, with feelings of exquisite sympathy, deluding myself even into the reverie of being an actual participator

¹ The living is now worth £950 per annum, with 500 acres of glebe, and residence (1918).

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of their elegant and tender endearments. Miss Fanny's tricks and fantasies were, like herself, strikingly pretty and bewitching. In these apartments I had, indeed, not only the friendship of my dear defunct authors, and my fellowstudents, but . . . the society, as it were, of one of the most lovely and interesting families in the kingdom."¹

The Duke of Gloucester wrote to Dr. Mansel as follows, on May 4, 1811 :

"MY DEAR LORD,

"I am very happy to find that I shall have the pleasure of seeing your lordship at dinner to-morrow se'nlight. I have many thanks to return to you for the information you have been so good as to communicate to me respecting my Installation, and it has afforded me great satisfaction to learn by your lordship's letter of the 2nd inst. that it has not been uncustomary for the Chancellor at his Installation to give a dinner to his own College and not to the University, as it is, I think, a highly proper measure, and it is a gratification I am anxious to give myself. I am very much flattered by Trinity College proposing to invite me to dine with our own College, of which invitation I shall accept with the greatest satisfaction, and I should recommend that the dinner intended to be given to me should take place on the Monday, as I am desirous of giving *my dinner* on the Saturday, the day on which I shall have been installed. As it will be necessary that preparations should be made as soon as possible, I have requested of Mr. Curry to go down to Cambridge immediately, and he proposes being there on Monday next. I hope you will have the goodness to give him every necessary information and assistance, and I have desired him to wait upon your lordship and to consult you upon every point. With the truest regard and the highest esteem, I am ever,

"My dear Lord,

"Most sincerely yours,

"WILLIAM FREDERICK."²

Again, under date March 13, 1820, the Duke writes :

¹ "Alma Mater, or Seven Years at the University of Cambridge," by a Trinity man. Vol. i., p. 174. (This reference is given in a collection of papers held by the bishop's descendants; the book could not be found in the British Museum. "A Trinity man" was evidently more of a sentimentalist than a skilful prose-writer.)

² The Duke of Gloucester was elected Chancellor of the University on March 26, and installed June 29, 1811.

"MY DEAR LORD,

"I had on Friday last the pleasure of receiving your letter, which I immediately transmitted to the King, who has directed me to state to you that he does not feel that he can interfere upon the subject of your application to him, but must refer you to the Archbishop of Canterbury. His Majesty has also desired me to express his regret at learning your Lordship's indisposition. I need not, I am sure, say how truly I lament to hear such a very unfavourable account of your health, and to find that you do not talk of coming to Town this spring. It would have been a great gratification to the Duchess and myself to have seen your Lordship and the Misses Mansel here. I am requesting you to remember me in the kindest and most particular manner to them. I must state that it is with the greatest satisfaction I avail myself of every opportunity of renewing to you an expression of the sincere attachment and esteem with which I am always,

"My dear Lord,

"Very truly yours,

"WILLIAM FREDERICK."¹

Dr. Mansel died on June 27, 1820, at Trinity Lodge, and was buried in Trinity College Chapel, July 3.

On July 5 the Princess Mary, Duchess of Gloucester, wrote to his eldest daughter:

"MY DEAR MISS MANSEL

"I trouble you with this letter in the Duke's name and my own to express how deeply we feel for you *all* under your present affliction, and to hope your health has not suffered any more than your sister's from the sudden and unexpected blow this melancholy event must have occasioned you all. We heard with great concern of the death of the Bishop, and the Duke laments him as one of his oldest and kindest friends. I shall ever remember with true pleasure and gratitude all the kindness I received from him and all of you at Cambridge last year, and the hospitable reception you gave us. I beg you will remember me kindly to your sisters, and believe me

"Your sincere friend,
"MARY."

Dr. Mansel left three sons and six daughters, as shown in the accompanying pedigree.

¹ The three letters of the Duke of Gloucester transcribed above are in the possession, in the originals, of Lieut.-Col. Mansel Symonds, Deloraine Court, Lincoln, a connection of the family by marriage.

DERIVATION AND ISSUE OF WILLIAM LORT MANSEL, BISHOP OF BRISTOL.

[illegible]

William Wogan Mansel may have had other children, but the above are the only ones known of with certainty.

His eldest son, named after him, entered the Royal Navy, and was taken prisoner under the following circumstances, while serving in the brig *Vencejo*,¹ of eighteen guns, under a very gallant commander.

"At daylight on May 5th (1804), the *Vencejo*, 18, Commander John Wesley Wright, found herself becalmed near the mouth of the Morbihan, and driven by the ebb close to the Teigneuse rock, off which, for safety, she had to drop anchor. The *Vencejo* was a quarter-decked and forecastled brig, mounting eighteen 18-pounder carronades, but pierced for twenty guns, and carrying fifty-one men and twenty-four boys. Although more formidable in appearance than in reality, she was of only 277 tons, and was scarcely a fair match for a couple of French gun-brigs. While, nevertheless, she was endeavouring, after she had weighed and warped into the channel, to sweep clear of the coast, she was approached from the mouth of the river by six brigs, each of three guns; six luggers, each of two guns, and five luggers, each of two guns; the total force arrayed against her being seventeen vessels, thirty-five guns (*i.e.*, six long 24-pounders, twenty-four long 18-pounders, and five 36-pounder carronades), and between 700 and 800 men, under Lieutenant Laurent Tourneur. The enemy rowed down within range, and at 8.30 a.m. they began to fire. By 9.30 a.m. they had so decreased their distance that Commander Wright swept his brig broadside on to them. For nearly two hours he engaged them within about a cable's length; but, having his rigging cut to pieces, his hull badly mauled, three of his guns disabled, two men killed, and twelve, including himself, wounded, and most of his armament temporarily put out of action by the fall of the booms, he at length ordered the colours to be struck. Wright, carried prisoner to Paris, died in the Temple on October 28th, 1805, in circumstances which strongly suggested foul play. Napoleon denied having used any violence whatsoever to the brave officer; but the true facts of the affair, some of which will be found very fully set forth in the *Naval Chronicle*,

¹ Erroneously named, in some instances, *Vengejo*. From her name, this vessel would appear to have been a Spanish prize, but she does not appear among the Spanish losses, 1804-1808. In the British losses she is put down as of sixteen, not eighteen guns. There was another *Vencejo*, a small privateer, captured from Spain in 1807. *Vencejo* is Spanish for swift, or swallow.

are to this day involved in mystery. Wright, before his capture, had, in his ill-manned little craft, maintained his station almost continuously for three months, without a pilot, in the enemy's waters, and in presence of a largely superior force; had repeatedly chased into port more powerful vessels of the enemy; and had on one occasion hauled his brig ashore on a French island only four miles from the mainland in order to repair her. It is satisfactory to be able to add that, before his untimely death, this active and gallant man heard of his advancement to post-rank."¹

In this gallant affair, under the brave and resourceful Wright, Midshipman William Lort Mansel took part, being then in his fourteenth year. In common with the remainder of the brig's crew, he was taken prisoner, and was in the first instance sent to Paris, with his commander and other officers, and confined in the Temple.

In an account written in an old family bible, by young Mansel's grandmother, Mrs. Haggerston, it is stated: "The captain and my grandson were imprisoned in the Temple at Paris as state prisoners of war, where the unfortunate Captain Wright was murdered, after which my grandson was liberated on his Parole of Honour and removed to Verdun, but was afterwards removed by an order of Bonaparte to Valenciennes with a great many prisoners, where his parole was not continued, upon which he remonstrated and determined to escape, which he did on the 17th Nov. 1808, and after suffering great hardships arrived at Dover in a Dutch boat the 14th March, 1809, and on Sunday the 19th of March at Cambridge, to the great joy of the Bishop his father and of the family, in good health and spirits."

In a further account Mrs. Haggerston says: "On the 12th of September 1810 died my dear grandson William Lort Mansel. . . . This fine and amiable young man was taken a prisoner at the age of

¹ "The Royal Navy," by W. Laird Clowes. Vol. v., pp. 63, 64. There is a long statement by Commander Wright in the *Naval Chronicle* (vol. xxv., pp. 441 *et seq.*), from which it would appear that, after treating him in the first instance with humanity and generosity, the French authorities subsequently made various charges against him; but, as is stated above, there is much mystery about the affair. The action took place in Quiberon Bay, on the south side of the jutting shoulder of France.

13 years with the unfortunate Captain Wright in the *Vencejo*, and carried into France ; after continuing there about five years, during which time he underwent much hardship and many cruelties on account of the firmness of his determination, even at that tender age, not to give information which might affect his captain, against whom the enemy was bitterly incensed, he finally succeeded in making his escape ; but the suffering which he endured from his long and repeated concealment in wet ditches, woods, marshes, etc., for upwards of three months during the course of that escape too visibly affected his constitution. His friends were often anxious with him to change his profession, but his attachment to it was unalterable, and after staying with them for a few weeks only, he sailed as midshipman on board the *Circe* frigate, Captain Woolcombe ; who has now in a letter from Gibraltar announced his dissolution at the early age of 19."

In the account by his niece, Mary Isabella Peacock, is the following : " He escaped after many years' detention, and landed on the Kentish coast, penniless and with nothing but the clothes he wore. At first he thought of walking to London, but finding he made very slow progress, he took the wise step of calling on a clergyman by the way, to whom he stated that he was an escaped prisoner from France, etc., adding that the then Prime Minister, Spencer Perceval, was a great friend of his father's, Dr. Mansel of Trinity and Bishop of Bristol, and that if the clergyman would help him, such help would be thankfully and promptly repaid. The good man was puzzled between the youth's tale and his very shabby appearance, so he wisely ordered some refreshment, and then went and consulted his wife, asking her to come in and hear and judge. She did so, and then told her husband that he need not fear, as she was sure the story was true, and the poor weary young fellow was sent on his way rejoicing. Once in London, Mr. Perceval supplied him with all he needed, and sent him down to Cambridge in a chaise and four horses, which, when he got near the town, were, I believe, taken out, and the young sailor was dragged in triumph to the college gates."

This story appears to be discounted by the following letter :

Crown Inn,
Rochester,
March 16, 1800.

"DEAR SIR,

"It is with the greatest pleasure I inform you that, after a variety of extraordinary events, and innumerable dangers, I have most fortunately made my escape from France, and am now restored to my friends and country. It will add to the many obligations I already owe to you if you will have the kindness to let my dear father know of it. I should certainly have written to him myself, had I not feared that such an unforeseen incident would have made too sudden an impression on his mind. I should not have delayed one moment coming to town, but the state of my finances obliges me to remain at this place until I receive some cash from my father to pay my conveyance, and to purchase a few articles of dress which are absolutely necessary. Give me leave not to enter into any details at present concerning my escape. But I have the satisfaction of acquainting you that I have not disgraced myself by violating that sacred tie, my Parole of Honour. Have the goodness to present my respects to Mrs. Perceval and all your family, and believe me to remain, dear Sir,

"Your most obliged humble servant,
"W. L. MANSEL."

Having despatched this letter, one would imagine that Mansel would await a remittance from his father or his friend, instead of starting to walk to London. However, these are the accounts to hand of his adventures; it is stated elsewhere that he made his escape in the company of another gentleman, disguised in women's clothes, in an open boat, and that they were two days and two nights at sea.

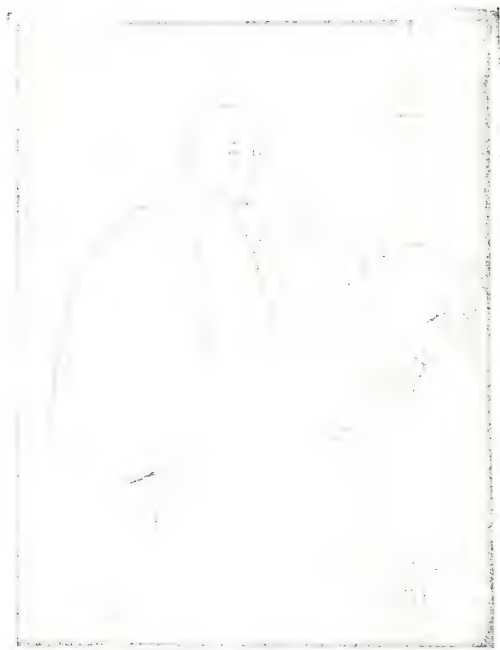
In an old manuscript note-book in the possession of the Rev. Lord Mansel (who, as will be seen in the pedigree, married his cousin Isabella, Bishop Mansel's eldest daughter), said to have been written by William Wogan Mansel, is the following:

"EXTRACT FROM TALES OF A TAR.

"Mr. Edward Wogan Mansel was a fine high-spirited fellow as ever trod the deck of a king's ship. We had served together in the West Indies, and again on the Boulogne station, when a circumstance occurred which stamped his character in the squadron, and



PORTRAIT (unnamed).



[Faint, illegible handwritten text]

which (if merit had claims to promotion, particularly as he had served his time) would have immediately raised him to the rank of Lieutenant. It was simply this: on the 18th of July, 1805, we had been in constant action with a numerous flotilla of the enemy, and the batteries which covered them in their attempts to form a junction with the main body at Boulogne. Towards the close of the day, whilst employed 'crushing a group of gun-lugs'¹ which had grounded close in with Cape Grisnez, a thirteen-inch shell struck the ship; it knocked away our main cross and trestle-trees, destroyed the larboard jeeblock, fell in the booms, and thence in the waist, killing a seaman in its descent. Mansel sprang from the fore-castle into the waist, called a couple of hands to his assistance, and in a few seconds launched the mischievous intruder out of the port. The shell was heard by myself and several of the ship's company to burst under water. . . . Mansel's intrepidity made some little noise; the case was investigated and reported, and the Committee of the Patriotic Fund voted him a sword of honour of the value of 50 guineas, or that sum in money. Mansel preferred the sword, but subsequently received a cool 'official' intimation him that '*not being a commissioned officer*' he could not receive that emblem of honour, but that the money was at his service. He remained a mid-shipman until made a Lieutenant on the coast of Africa by Capt. Maxwell in 1806. He was subsequently drowned in the command of the *Patriot* gun-vessel, off Heligoland, when a handsome monument was erected by the merchants of the place—'He was as full of valour as kindness, princely in both.'"

It is suggested that this Edward Wogan Mansel was a step-brother of the bishop, though there is no mention of William Wogan Mansel having been twice married, nor is the date of his death known.

Among the Danish losses in 1809, mention is made of the *Snap*, taken by the *Patriot*, Lieut. E—— W—— Mansel, on May 29, in the North Sea,² which confirms the above story.

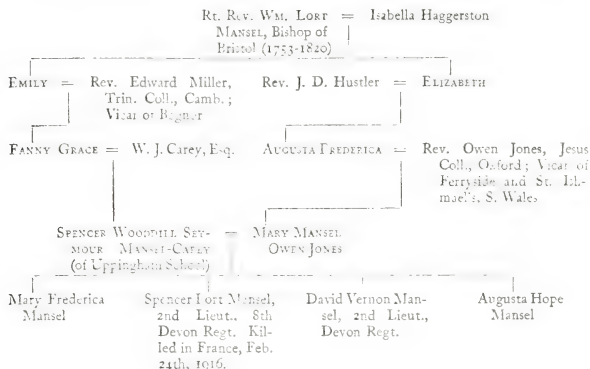
The connection of Mr. and Mrs. Mansel-Carey, of Uppingham

¹ Or perhaps *gun-lugs*—small vessels filled with explosives.

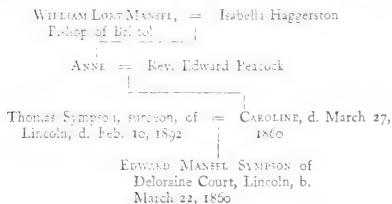
² "The Royal Navy." Vol. v., p. 505.

74 THE MAUNSELL (MANSEL) FAMILY

School, with Bishop Mansel's family is indicated in the annexed sketch pedigree.



Dr. Simpson, of Lincoln, is connected as follows:



There is a pedigree of Simpson, dating from 1622, in *Lincolnshire Notes and Queries* for April, 1917.

Dr. Michael Lort (1725-1790), brother-in-law of William Wogan Mansel, and uncle to the bishop, was a man of some note. He was an accomplished scholar and antiquary, and held various posts as librarian, etc. From 1759 to 1771 he was Regius Professor of Greek at Cambridge; he was domestic chaplain to Archbishop Cornwallis at Lambeth from 1779 to 1783, and in 1785 was appointed

librarian there. About 1761 he was vicar of Bottisham, a living afterwards held by his nephew, as above described.

Lort was intimate with Madame D'Arblay (*née* Fanny Burney) and the circle of eminent men who formed her acquaintance. Madame D'Arblay says of him that he was "reckoned one of the most learned men alive, and a collector of curiosities, alike in literature and natural history. His manners are somewhat blunt and odd, and he is altogether out of the common road, without having chosen a better path."

She also describes how Dr. Lort, at a gathering in which Dr. Johnson, Mrs. Thrale, and others were present, suddenly confounded her by asking, "Pray, ma'am, have you heard anything of a novel that runs about a good deal, *Evelina*?"

The query was probably addressed to Mrs. Thrale; she and Dr. Johnson were in the secret of Fanny Burney's authorship. The conversation which ensued so harassed the authoress that, when Dr. Lort went to look for "*Evelina*" on the side-table, she ran from the room, "heartily wishing Mr. Lort at Jerusalem." Meeting Mrs. Thrale in the passage immediately afterwards, the latter exclaimed, "This is very good sport! The man is as innocent about the matter as a child, and we shall hear what he says to it to-morrow morning at breakfast. I made a sign to Dr. Johnson and Seward not to tell him."¹

Dr. Lort met his death in 1790, the result of a carriage accident.

It is necessary that, in this present work, the claim of William Washington Mansell to the baronetcy of Margam should be discussed. The honour, as already stated, is officially declared to be extinct; but Mr. Mansell claimed that he was the representative and heir, through his lineal descent from Edward, fourth son of Sir Thomas Mansel, first baronet.

Mr. Mansel's book, "*An Historical and Genealogical Account of the Ancient Family of Mansell*," has repeatedly been alluded to in these pages; and it appears that he was induced to enter upon the

¹ "*Diary and Letters of Madame D'Arblay*." Vol. i., pp. 91 *et seq.*

task after some years spent in collecting data to prove his right to the baronetcy. In the preface the following passage occurs: "Where I have been more particularly anxious to clear up points in the pedigree, was solely to show and prove my right, legally, to the baronetage (*sic*) of 1611; of which there is not the slightest question, heraldically or genealogically, if I may so express myself, but which the political troubles of bygone times has rendered difficult to establish in all its legal and technical points." Mr. Mansel disavows all intention of disputing claims to certain properties, and promises to treat of the matter of the baronetcy in its proper place.

His book, however, never got beyond a small instalment, printed in 1850; but there is evidence available as to the nature of his claim in certain documents among the MSS. in the British Museum.¹

These shall be transcribed as they stand in the first instance, and analysed afterwards.

On June 5, 1835, Mr. Charles George Young,² registrar of the College of Arms, writes as follows to Sir Frederick Madden:³ "Dear Sir, I enclose a copy of Le Neve's⁴ statement respecting Mansel, which is in red ink; the black ink is additional matter (and corrects Le Neve's statement as to Arthur) supplied by the will of Sir Thomas. From the nature of that will I should have but little doubt that Edward Mansel was dead *sine prole*. There is not any mention of him in his father's will, and Le Neve has probably put *s.p.* to Arthur instead of Edward. I do not find any pedigree giving any account of the said Edward. Yours most truly, C. G. Young."

¹ Egerton MSS., 2840, fol. 326 *et seq.*

² Charles George Young (1791-1869) was York herald in 1820, registrar of the College of Arms in 1822, a post which he held until August 6, 1842, when he was made Garter King-at-Arms; he was knighted on August 12th in the same year.

³ Sir Frederick Madden (1801-1875), antiquary, was employed for two years at the British Museum in classifying and indexing some manuscripts; in 1828 he was made an assistant keeper of manuscripts on the staff, and in 1837 was head of the MSS. Department; he was knighted in the same year.

⁴ Peter Le Neve, antiquary, of Norfolk (1664-1726). He was a most industrious collector and compiler of genealogical data, both in respect of Norfolk families and others; a large number of his MSS. are in the College of Arms, the British Museum, and elsewhere.

persons to conceive that he came from thence ; but it is more than probable that he came from Slade, a small village in the hundred of Swansea, Glamorgan, not far distant from Margam."

"Sir Lewis, eldest son of Sir Thomas, died April 4th, 1638, leaving several children, and the eldest, Henry, being then only 8 years of age, admits of the supposition that he married about 1628 or 1629, and, if he did not marry extremely young, must have been born about the year 1605 or 1606 : therefore it is only fair to argue that Edward, he being a younger son of Sir Thomas, was born in 1610 or 1611 ; and presuming that he married at the age of 25 (an. 1635), his son, at the time of the battle of Sedgmoor, 1685, would be about 48 or 49 years of age. Moreover, his cousin Mary, Sir Lewis's daughter, was married in 1664 aged about 19. Why then should not the son of a younger son of Sir Thomas be about the same age as the 5th child of the elder son ? Thomas of Britton Ferry, another cousin, died in 1705, and Bussy, Thomas's brother, survived. Again, Henry, my grandfather, died in 1773 aged 84, ergo was born in 1689, four years after the battle of Sedgmoor. Upon the whole, therefore, I think I am justified in supposing William to be the son of Edward."

"Edward Mansell of Shropshire, whose will is dated Nov. 1674, speaks of his wife Blanche, and of his children Edward, Adam, Nicholas and Sarah. Harl. MSS. 6831 mentions Lewis, Arthur and Robert as sons of Sir Thomas."

"Edward Mansell, 1630, of Chedington, co. Warwick, wills money to Edward and Thomas Mansell of Chedington, 'his brother's sons,' and makes his sister Elizabeth his executrix."

"Wills of Mansel and Maunsell proved in Dublin between 1685 and 1730.

"MANSELL WILLS

Jane of Dublin	-	-	-	Sept. 1739
Thomas of Anawlsly, co. Limerick	-	-	-	1711

"ADMONS.

John of Ballyvoreen, co. Limerick	-	-	-	1685
Eliza, a minor	-	-	-	1707
Boyle, do.	-	-	-	1707
Boyle, do.	-	-	-	1712

80 THE MAUNSELL (MANSEL) FAMILY

" MAUNSELL

Thomas of Mace Collop, co. Waterford (will)	1692
Henry of London - - - - (will)	1700
Thomas of Gaulestown, co. Kilkenny (admon.)	1704
Boyle of Gaulestown - - - (admon.)	1704."

" Received June 22nd, 1835, from
Mr. Wm. W. Mansell."

(Note by Sir F. Madden : Brit.
Mus. stamp underneath.)

(Here follows a quotation from Collinson's " History of Somerset.")

Irish Records, p. 116, Acts of Settlement : " Margaret Crookhorne, relict of Captain Henry Crookhorne, and Anne, daughter and heir of said Henry. Ballylane 511A etc., etc. Total rent £22. 12. 5½. Date 28 Nov. 19th year. Enrolled 10th Dec. 1667. By patent dated Feb. 26. 1677, an abatement of £8. 4. 5½ was granted to them of the quit rent of £22. 12. 5½, with an abatement of £8. 18. 4 of the quit rent of £30. 11. 6 to Mary Deacon, reserved on the lands of Chapple etc. as mentioned in the patent which recites that the same had been passed in patent dated 16 Nov. 1666 to John Deacon, Gent., but are not enrolled under the Acts of Settlement."

Letter from C. G. Young to Wm. W. Mansell, June 13, 1835 :

" MY DEAR SIR, I was not at the club until yesterday, when your packet was given to me, or I should sooner have thanked you ; indeed, it was opened only this morning. As Henry the son died young Le Neve had not put him in the line in the pedigree, but he was aware of the existence, as over the line he has a note saying there had been such a son, and referring to the H. of Mordaunt for his authority. The non-mention in the will of Edward is not absolutely proof, but I judge from the tenor of the will. Examination of the wills of his brother and others of the family might throw some light. . . .

" Yours sincerely,
" C. G. YOUNG."

Thus far the Egerton MSS. : we have in these documents an indication of the basis of Mr. Mansell's claim for the baronetcy, of which, he states, " there is not the slightest question, heraldically or genealogically."

It is not easy, however, to perceive upon what he grounds this absolute conviction.

He assumes that Sir Thomas, first Baronet of Margam, had a son Edward, who is not mentioned in his father's will : and, as will be noticed, Mr. Young, then registrar of the College of Arms, in his first letter, says : " From the nature of that will I should have but little doubt that Edward Mansell was dead *sine prole*."

It is the most obvious inference ; Sir Thomas mentions his sons Lewis and Arthur, his grandson Bussy, and his five grand-daughters, but he names no other son ; therefore, if he had any such other sons they must have died before the will was executed, and died without issue, else why should their children be excluded ?

Sir Thomas is credited by Le Neve with three sons, Lewis, Arthur, and Edward : but he apparently made a note afterwards on the pedigree that there was a son Henry, and that he was the third, Edward being the youngest. Mr. Young also says that Le Neve " probably put *s.p.* to Arthur instead of Edward " ; if he did, it was an inexcusable blunder on the part of an antiquary and genealogist ; but, in view of his note, " died *s.p.* as I suppose," it is not possible to accept the mistake as a slip of the pen. There was and is ample evidence that Arthur Mansel had issue, and Le Neve's introduction of a fourth son, Edward, is discounted by this obvious lack of carefulness.

Mr. Wm. W. Mansell gives the four sons, and derives his own immediate progenitors from Edward, who, as he reiterates, is not named in his father's will : the assertion is repeated as though it constitutes in some degree a proof of Mr. Mansell's right to the baronetcy.

Well, neither is Henry named in the will ; but there is absolute evidence of his existence in the will of Lewis, third Lord Mordaunt, Sir Thomas Mansel's father-in-law, who alludes to " Arthur and Henry Mansel, the sons of my daughter Mary." ¹

There is not, however, any evidence to show that Sir Thomas

¹ " Succinct Genealogies of the Noble and Ancient Families of Albion . . . and Mordaunt " ; p. 624. This volume is very loosely alluded to by Le Neve and Young as " The History of Mordaunt."

had a son Edward, except Le Neve's rough pedigree. Mr. Mansell, at any rate, does not adduce any such evidence in his correspondence with Sir F. Madden and Mr. Young; and the note on the pedigree, "this remains to be proved," by Sir F. Madden, shows that he, at least, was sceptical on the subject; he also suggests that a generation has been omitted in Mr. Mansell's pedigree.

Now, if Mr. Mansell had any evidence to show that Sir Thomas Mansel had a fourth son Edward, it is certainly remarkable that, in his correspondence with two such genealogical experts as Sir F. Madden and Mr. Young, he should not have brought it forward. One would have imagined that this would have been his primary point; but he adduces no such evidence for his assumption. The only testimony on this head is produced by Mr. Young, in Le Neve's pedigree; and Le Neve cannot be accepted as an authority regarding the Mansel genealogy; he "supposes" that Arthur Mansel died *s.p.*, and his supposition is, as has been pointed out, inexcusably erroneous; where he found Edward does not appear.

Mr. Mansell is very much at sea in his conjecture as to the date of Sir Lewis Mansel's birth; he was born, in fact, in 1584, as is witnessed by the fact that he matriculated at Brasenose College, Oxford, on January 30, 1601, at the age of sixteen.¹ Mr. Mansell is not far out, however, as to the date of his third marriage, by which alone he had male issue; this took place August 25, 1627; his two former marriages are ignored. What the writer designs to prove by the statement that "Mary, Sir Lewis's daughter, was married in 1664 aged about 19" is not apparent; but the assertion is certainly not true, as Sir Lewis died in 1638, and his daughter could not have been less than six-and-twenty in 1664.

Mr. Mansell, ignoring the obvious importance of establishing this first link in the chain, proceeds to dilate upon the probability of William Mansell, the alleged son of the hypothetical Edward, having gone to Wexford from Slade, near Swansea, and to contest Sir F. Madden's query as to a missing generation. He had, however, found himself compelled to tide over the difficulty presented in the long

¹ "Alumni Oxoniensis." Vol. iii., p. 967.



MARTHA MANSEL, DAUGHTER OF SIR EDWARD MANSEL.
MARRIED TO THOMAS MORGAN, OF TREDEGAR, ESQ.

period covered in his genealogy, by the assumption that William Mansell lived to the age of "about 100."

There is, indeed, a suspicious vagueness about this William; he is said to have fought at Sedgmoor in 1685, when he would be "48 or 49 years of age," and to have died "before 1763"—a long while previously, for had he been born *in the year* of Sedgmoor he would have been seventy-eight years of age in 1763.

Mr. Mansell then alludes to the wills of two Edward Mansells, the one of Shropshire, the other of Warwickshire, and quotes a passage from Collinson's "*History of Somerset*"; none of these things having the least value in respect of his claim. The quotation from Collinson is apparently inserted solely because "*Slade*" appears as the name of the purchaser of certain lands in Somerset which were formerly held by Mansells; it is as though the writer were clutching at straws.

Mr. Mansell's account of his family—which was originally intended to run into three large volumes—has already been repeatedly alluded to in the first volume of this present history. It does not present him as a careful or reliable genealogist and historian; it abounds in positive assertions based upon inadequate evidence, or upon no evidence whatsoever; in gratuitous assumptions and false deductions; and where references are given they frequently fail to prove the point in question, and in some instances directly traverse it.

His arguments in favour of his right to the baronetcy are stamped with the same character; he has certainly some information concerning his grandfather, Henry, and his great-grandfather, William; but his assumption of the existence of Edward, fourth son of Sir Thomas of Margam, and of his relationship with William Mansell of Slade is quite unjustifiable—unless he was in possession of some evidence which has not been disclosed; and indeed, it would need some very potent testimony to overrule the disabilities and discrepancies already indicated.

Mr. William Washington Mansell appears to have been upon friendly terms with Mr. W. Mansell, of Guernsey (now living), and to have left some documents to him at his death. Among these there is a lease of property at Slade, county Wexford, from Lord

Ely¹ to Henry Mansell of Slade, son of William of Slade, with remainder to William Mansell of Fethard, who is stated to have been nine years and three months old on February 6, 1769.

These are evidently Wm. W. Mansell's father, grandfather, and great-grandfather; his father, according to this, was born at the end of 1759, and there is evidence of his death in the records of the Military Knights of Windsor, from which it appears that he died on August 21, 1825, and was buried in front of St. George's Chapel at Windsor.

Mr. Mansell of Guernsey states that Mr. Wm. W. Mansell once wrote to him as follows: "I descend from the 4th and youngest son of Sir Thomas Mansel, first Baronet. His son, my great-grandfather, joined Monmouth, and after Sedgmoor fled to Ireland; but as no registers were then kept in that country, there was difficulty in legally tracing back, and as I have neither fortune nor children I have never assumed the title. But I am 3rd Baronet in precedence dating from 1611."

Early in last century Elizabeth, a sister of William Washington Mansell, married Captain Richard Frederick Angelo, of the H. E. I. Co.'s Service; and a few years ago his son, Colonel Richard Fisher Angelo, of the Indian Army, compiled an account of the Mansell and Angelo families.

Mr. Mansell's mantle of inaccuracy appears to have fallen upon Colonel Angelo. In a short preface he says: "This abridgement is made from two sources--(1) That of the Mansell Family from a work published in 1846² by William, the only son of Sir John Mansell, knight of Windsor." The matter concerning the Mansell family is obviously taken, mostly word for word, from the account by William Washington Mansell, whose father's name was not John, but William; and on p. 72 we are told that it was *William* who was made a knight of Windsor, and "his sons were Henry, John, and William (the compiler of his history)"; moreover, the appoint-

¹ Nicholas Hume-Loftus, second Earl of Ely, sixth Viscount Loftus of Ely; he died unmarried in November, 1769, the same year in which this lease was dated.

² Both copies of W. W. Mansell's book in the British Museum bear the date 1850 on the title-page.

ment as a military knight of Windsor does not confer the title of "Sir."

However, this account proceeds almost *verbatim* on the lines of Mr. Wm. Mansell's, until it arrives at Sir Thomas Mansell, first Baronet of Margam. Mr. Mansell states that Sir Thomas had four sons by his first marriage, but only mentions Lewis and Arthur. In Colonel Angelo's book it is stated that "he had four sons, of whom the eldest was Sir Lewis, who succeeded to the title and estates, and the youngest was Edward, into whose time this history now descends."

"Edward Mansell resided at Henlllys in Gower, in his time a residence of some consequence. . . . He died in 1723, after marrying and leaving issue William Mansell, well known to this day in that part of the country as 'Old Will Mansell of Henlllys.'"

Here is another instance of extraordinary longevity; this Edward was, as is alleged, the son of Sir Thomas by his first wife Mary, daughter of Lewis, third Lord Mordaunt; they were married in 1582. The date of Mary's death has not been found, but she was married young, almost certainly under twenty; in the year 1620 she would be at least fifty-four or fifty-five years of age, and even admitting the extremely improbable hypothesis of her having borne a son at that age, Edward would be one hundred and three years of age if he lived until the year 1723. From the tenor of Colonel Angelo's preface it must be inferred that he derived this information from W. W. Mansell, or from some document or statement emanating from him. It seems scarcely worth while to discuss such an obviously "manufactured" pedigree, in which it has been found necessary to present this father and son as centenarians; it cannot for a moment be considered as genuine or accurate.

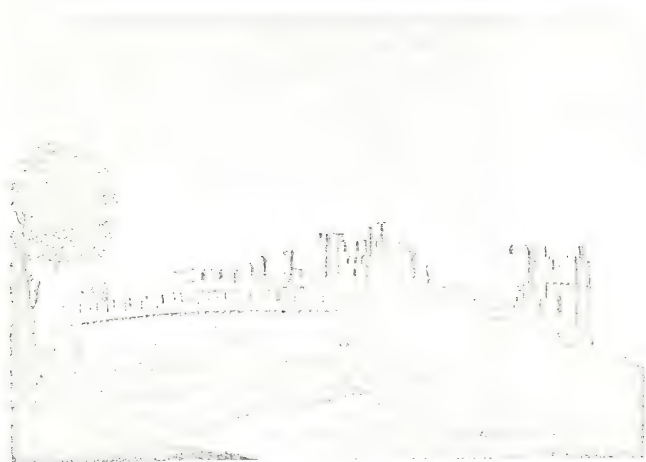
It is stated in Colonel Angelo's book that William, the alleged son of Edward Mansell, is well known in Wales to this day as "Old Mansell of Henlllys." In the succeeding paragraph we are told that, after Monmouth's defeat at Sedgemoor, "his partisans soon found themselves obliged to retire from observation. . . . William Mansell consequently went to Ireland and settled on the coast of Wexford at a place called Slade."

One would imagine that William would be better known as "Old Mansell of Slade"; he is alleged to have been under fifty at the time of the battle of Sedgemoor, and to have retired to Ireland soon afterwards, so he could not have been regarded as an old man at Henllys. But the whole story bristles with discrepancies.

The claim to the baronetcy did not originate with Mr. Wm. W. Mansell, as is proved by a letter from his mother to her eldest son, Henry, dated March 8, 1821. Henry was captain in the 14th Regiment, and was for some time aide-de-camp to Lord William Bentinck, viceroy of India.

Mrs. Mansell, after some preliminary remarks, writes: "The Mansell family came into England with William the Conqueror, who granted to them the estate of Margam, in Glamorganshire, where they settled. After the death of Charles the 2nd his illegitimate son, the Duke of Monmouth, aspired to the Throne, and many friends to the reformed religion, from a conviction that James favoured the Catholics, joined Monmouth's standard, amongst the rest William Mansell (your father's Grandfather), and son to . . . Mansell of Margam. . . . On your father's coming of age, he was not in possession of a single paper belonging to his father, and although he always understood that he was undoubted heir to the Margam estate, yet not having any document to *show* that claim, he never took a step to find out how he might make that claim good. I understand that the Law allows 60 years . . . (for the claiming? words illegible) of property. I don't know when Lord Mansell, or as I am most accustomed to hear him called, Bussy Mansell died, but supposing him to have died immediately after your grandfather, there remain still twelve years, or to be more certain let us call it eleven years to make a claim, yet remaining. The estate is now I understand in the possession of a Mr. Talbot, and John accidentally heard when he was last at home that he had been striving to sell it—does this not look something like a bad title? It now strikes me that if a Proctor in Doctors Commons was employed to investigate every will of the Family from the reign of Charles the 2nd that something might be found to work on."

The writer is evidently supremely ignorant of the manner in



VIEW FROM EAST OF

BRITON FERRY, GLAMORGANSHIRE.

which the Margam estates came into the possession of the Mansels ; she is also probably in error as to the limitation of action for claim of property : in any case, Bussy Lord Mansel died in 1750, so that seventy-one years had already elapsed ; this, however, is not of any importance.

Mrs. Mansell describes her husband's grandfather, William Mansell, who died, as is alleged, before 1763, as " son to . . . Mansell of Margam " ; she alludes to the relationship as a fact which was known to the family. The ground of this conviction does not appear, nor does the writer concern herself with the genealogical difficulty presented by the long period covered in two generations, which has been commented upon above.

The idea had got into the family by some means, and Mr. Wm. W. Mansell inherited it, so to speak ; but there is nothing to show in the way of evidence ; and Mr. Mansell, it may be remarked, in his assumption that Edward, alleged son of Sir Thomas, was born about 1610 or 1611, evidently ignores the fact that Lady Mansel—*née* Mary Mordaunt—if she were married at eighteen, would have been about six-and-forty at this time, and married eight-and-twenty years ; it is, of course, quite possible that she may have had a son at this age, but it is, on the face of it, improbable, and the introduction of improbabilities in a matter of this kind is always open to suspicion.

To sum up the case: it is very improbable that Sir Thomas Mansel had a son Edward ; if he had, then it is almost certain that the said Edward died, without issue, *via patris* ; and if he did not, how did it come about that William Mansell, of Henllys, and afterwards of Slade, or his son Henry, did not claim the title on the death of Bussy Lord Mansel in 1750 ? Had he been indeed the son of Edward, and grandson of Sir Thomas, why should there have been any concealment in the matter ? His existence would certainly have been known to Bussy and others ; yet the Barony and Baronetcy were permitted to become extinct, without protest, and the estates passed, also without protest, to the Talbots, under the will of Christopher Lord Mansel, Bussy's elder brother, and his predecessor in the title.

These considerations, together with the suspicious stretching

of the two generations next after Sir Thomas Mansel, render it practically impossible to accept the claim as just or genuine.

According to the account given of William Mansell in Colonel Angelo's volume, he was a generous benefactor to the community in Wexford; he is said to have housed his Irish tenants comfortably, to have built a dock and pier, and erected salt works at his own cost. He is also stated to have been a "mechanic, astrologer, and magician," and likewise interested in astronomy, etc. It is alleged that he constructed a clock "which went for 38 years [without winding, presumably] and did not stop until some years after his decease."

The final paragraph concerning him runs as follows: "By his union with Susan Crewkerne, William Mansell had only two children, Henry and Anne (wife of Richard Turner). William Mansell died about 1820 and was buried at Feathard, co. Wexford, aged 96."

Here is a marvellous statement! If William died in 1820, aged ninety-six he was obviously born in 1724, forty years after the battle of Sedgemoor, in which he is said to have taken part!

It is obviously not worth while to discuss further such wild and irreconcilable statements; but it may be possible to trace the descent of Wm. Washington Mansell from another source.

The deeds, already alluded to, in the possession of Mr. Mansell of Guernsey, establish the immediate ancestors of W. W. Mansell, in agreement with the pedigree which he supplied to Mr. Young and Sir F. Madden. He breaks down at the parentage of William Mansell the first, whom he asserts, without proof, and against all probability, to have been the son of one Edward, fourth son of Sir Thomas, first Baronet of Margam.

It is very possible, however, that this William may have been the son of Edward Mansell of Henlys and Swansea, whose father, Edward of Henlys, died in 1695, leaving his estates much encumbered and mortgaged—as is described hereafter in dealing with the Mansels of Trimsaren, who had sundry transactions with him.



THE APPROACH TO MARGAM FROM THE ORANGERY
AND THE OLD ABBEY



THE HOUSE AND GARDENS AT MARGAM



MARGAM FROM THE PARK

Edward the younger, of Henlys and Swansea, married Margaret Ducke, in or before the year 1682; and apparently, at his father's death, in 1695, he had no male issue, only a grandchild Martha being named in the will of Edward Mansell senior.

If William Mansell of Slade was the son of Edward the younger of Henlys, he could not have fought at Sedgmoor in 1685; probably this Edward had no son until after 1695; but is it certain that William was at Sedgmoor? The tradition that he was does not appear to have any more solid foundation than that other, that he was the son of Edward, fourth son of Sir Thomas. William Washington Mansell was greatly addicted, as has already been noticed, to making assertions without offering any evidence in support of them.

From the deeds alluded to above, William Mansell of Slade was apparently dead in 1709; probably he died just about then, and the lease was renewed to his son Henry on February 6. If he was born about 1696 he would be seventy-three years of age at his death, and there is here no occasion for introducing lives of a century's span; it all fits in with Edward's will and other documents.

Moreover, it is stated that Edward Mansell resided at Henlys, and died in 1723, which is the date, in all probability, of the death of Edward the younger above referred to.

The weak point about this tentative derivation of William of Slade is that no mention is made in Edward Mansell's will of any William, grandson or otherwise; nor can any will of Edward the younger be found; but it is a very reasonable hypothesis that the latter had a son, William born after the death of Edward senior; and it is here presented, as far more probable than the laboured and inconsistent allegations put forward by the claimant, without any attempt at adequate proof.

The annexed pedigree shows the suggested derivation of William Mansell of Slade, as given above, with some collateral additions in later years.

PEDIGREE SHOWING THE SUG- GESTED DESCENT OF WILLIAM MANSELL OF SLADE; WITH MORE RECENT ADDITIONS.

Sir Edward MANSELL, 1st. = Lady Jane Somerset, dau. of
of Margam, co. Glam., d. Henry, Earl of Worcester
1585

Philip MANSELL (4th son); = Catherine, dau. of Wm. Mar-
1st. 1585 tlew of Radly

Thomas MANSELL, 1st. 1632 = Jane, dau. of David Gwyn,
of Glanbrane

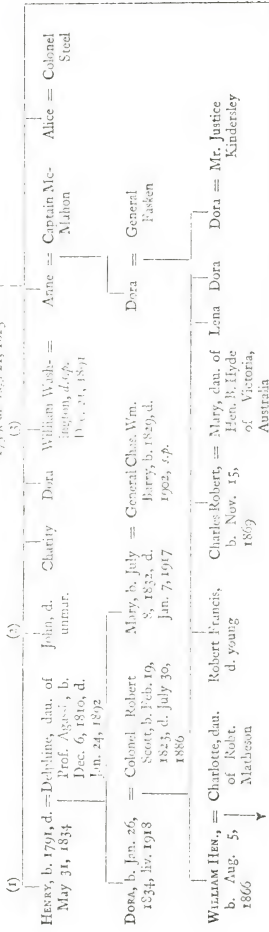
Edward MANSELL, of Heolys = Anne, dau. of Sir Theobald
and Swire, d. 1695 Gorges, 1st. 1694

Edward MANSELL of Swan- = Margaret, dau. of Richard
sea, d. 1723 Darke, 1st. 1700

William MANSELL of Slade, = Elizabeth, dau. of Henry
co. Wexford, d. before 1760 Crewkerne of Exeter

Henry MANSELL of Slade, 2d
d. 1777

William MANSELL, a mili- = Charity, dau. of John Lynn
tary lineal of Windsor, b. of Dungleigh, co. Wexford
1750, d. Aug. 21, 1825



William Mansell and Charity his wife had eleven children, of whom two died in infancy, and the remainder appear in the pedigree.

It is said that Charity Mansell was very intimate with Queen Charlotte, frequently playing cards with her, and that her children used to play with the royal children; also, that after the birth of her eleventh child she suddenly developed a passion, and considerable aptitude, for painting; her subjects were chiefly flowers, and were most frequently obtained from the royal gardens and hothouses.

Mr. William Washington Mansell appears to have been at one time well off, and was a favourite in society; he is said to have been very good-looking. He was kind and generous to his sisters in his prosperous days, but latterly he fell upon evil times, as he acknowledges in his letter to Mr. Mansell of Guernsey, already quoted. He was married, but not very happily, or at any rate not suitably to his position, and had no children.

Captain William Mansell, father of William Washington, appears to have been known in society and at Court as a caricaturist.

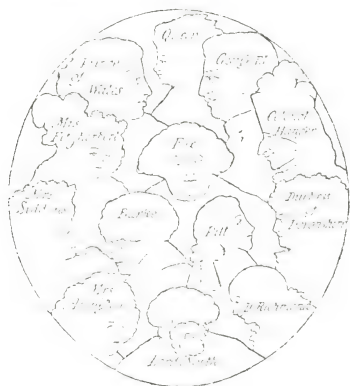
In the *Reminiscences of Henry Angelo*, the writer, after alluding to some of the ridiculous fashions in vogue at the end of the eighteenth century, and the "squibs and crackers" aimed at these absurdities by one Mercer, a military officer, among others, proceeds:

"Mansell, another military officer, also made a figure as a humorous draughtsman and caricaturist, a few years prior to this period. Some of his last works were satires upon Fox and Lord North's memorable coalition. One, however, which preceded this, represents these two celebrated statesmen, stripped in buff, fighting with fists, *à la* Broughton. It may be observed that Mansell was the first who represented the 'man of the people' as a *hairy* man.

"One subject from his witty pencil is truly amusing, as it represents, playfully enough, the *matériel* upon which he and his colleagues made their means; it is entitled, 'The Caricaturist's Stock in Trade.' This exhibits a group of heads, very like their prototypes, being the rulers of politics, fashion, etc.; or, in other words, the prevailing stars of the time, with some significant sign: The King, the Heir Apparent, Fox, North, Pitt, Burke, Sheridan, George Hanger, and the Duke of Richmond. The Queen; Mrs.

F——t (Fitzherbert), designated Queen Would-be ; Mrs. Siddons as Queen Rant ; Mrs. Abington as Queen Scrub ; and the Duchess of D——e (Devonshire), as Queen of Westminster, in allusion to her Grace's powerful influence in the memorable election of Fox, Hood, and Wray." ¹

The caricature is given in Angelo's book, and is here reproduced ; it will be noticed that it is inscribed " Drawn by W. Mansell, 1786." There can be little doubt that this was William, military knight of Windsor ; his position, and his wife's intimacy with Queen Charlotte, would afford ample opportunity of becoming familiar with all the royal and distinguished persons of the day, and the gossip concerning them.



Key to "The Caricaturer's Stock in Trade."

¹ "Reminiscences of Henry Angelo." Vol. I., pp. 328, 329. Colonel George Hanger (1751-1824), afterwards fourth Baron Coleraine (though he refused to assume the title), was a very prominent figure in society, and notorious by reason of his eccentricities. He was for several years one of the Prince Regent's *favorites*, but eventually his manners became too free and coarse for the royal taste. Thomas Abington (1755-1818), was a man of humble origin ; her maiden name was Barton. She acquired wealth, and was one of the most admired of the most influential persons. She married her minister, one of the great financiers. She played upon one occasion the "wombed" part of "Scrub" in the "Beaux's Stratagem," hence the "tag" in Mansell's caricature.



CHAPTER II

The Baronetcy of Muddlescombe

MUDDLESCOMBE is situated in Kidwelly, which lies near an inlet on the eastern side of the Bay of Carmarthen, about nine miles south of the town of Carmarthen. It is said that Maurice de Londres, a son or grandson of William de Londres, one of Fitzhamon's twelve knights, fortified the town and built a castle.

According to Samuel Lewis, Kidwelly was the scene of some stirring military events. "In 1114 the town and castle were surprised and taken by Griffith ap Rhys, who retained possession only for a short time; and after their recapture, Gwenllian, wife of Griffith, a woman of masculine intrepidity, with a view to recover her husband's territories placed herself at the head of a body of forces, and, attended by her two sons, attacked Maurice de Londres at a place in the vicinity of the castle, where she was defeated, made prisoner, and put to death by her adversary, one of her sons being also slain, and the other made captive; the place where this battle was fought is still (1849) called *Maes Gwenllian*, or 'Gwenllian's Field.' In 1148, Cadell, one of the sons of Griffith ap Rhys, issuing from Carmarthen with a powerful body of forces, ravaged and laid waste the country around this town. The castle was repaired and strengthened, in 1190, by Rhys ap Griffith, but was subsequently demolished in 1233 by Griffith, son of Llewelyn ap Iorwerth, Prince of North Wales."¹

In addition to these stormy vicissitudes, Kidwelly has also, as related in a previous chapter, some reputation as the scene of ghostly demonstrations.²

¹ "Topographical Dictionary of Wales," by Samuel Lewis. Vol. II, p. 157.

² See Vol. I., p. 242.

Francis, second son of Sir Edward Mansel of Margam, was created a baronet January 14, 1622; the baronetcy remains to this day, the present holder of the title being Sir Courtenay Cecil Mansel.

Sir Francis married, first, Catharine, daughter and co-heir of Henry Morgan of Muddlescombe; hence the affix "of Muddlescombe"; his elder brother, Anthony, married Mary, also daughter and co-heir of Henry Morgan.¹

Although the title has survived, and, as will presently be demonstrated, the successive steps are clearly authenticated, some genealogists have failed to trace them, and there are various discrepancies in the several versions extant, involving, strangely enough, in most instances, the entire omission of two steps in the earlier period; moreover, there appears to be a general tendency among these chroniclers to introduce or admit errors of more or less importance, and to ignore the testimony of sundry authorities.

Mr. Robert George Maunsel (p. 29) commences with a double discrepancy; he alludes to Sir Francis as *second* son of Sir Edward Mansel, whereas he has himself placed him as *third* son (p. 22); and to Anthony as *eldest* brother of Sir Francis, whereas the eldest brother was Sir Thomas, who became first baronet of Margam.

Sir Francis married, secondly, Dorothy, daughter of Alban Stepney, of Prendergast, county Pembroke; the issue of this marriage will be dealt with later on.

Sir Francis had issue a son, Walter, by his first marriage. Mr. R. G. Maunsell says that Walter had male issue that died young or issueless; and in a footnote he remarks: "Some authorities state that Walter Mansel succeeded his father as second Bart., but, dying without surviving male issue, his nephew Edward inherited the estates and Baronetcy."

This statement would appear to argue that there is some uncertainty concerning Walter's tenure of the title; this, however, is not the case.

¹ Lieutenant Mansel-Pleydell places Francis as *fourth* son of Sir Edward (see Vol. I, p. 240); it appears, however, from a more careful scrutiny of the Margam monument, that the *second* of the small kneeling figures is labelled "Francis," and they would naturally be placed according to precedence in age.

Sir Francis, the first baronet, died about the year 1628, administration of his estate being granted to Sir Walter Mansel, *Bart.*, December 2 of that year. Further letters of administration were granted, also to Sir Walter, June 27, 1631; while on April 3, 1641, another grant is recorded to Sir Anthony Mansel, knight, of Britton Ferry, "son of deceased, the said Sir Walter being now deceased."

This is sufficiently clear; Sir Walter also receives mention in the Calendar of State Papers; in the year 1629 he is twice alluded to as justice of the Peace; and in 1638, or earlier, Dame Dorothy Maunsell (so spelt) apparently brought an action of debt against him upon a bond of £6,000;¹ of which more hereafter.

Sir Walter is thus doubly vouched for; he is said to have married, in August, 1623, Elizabeth, daughter of Charles Fotherby, Dean of Canterbury, and died in April, 1640, his burial being recorded on April 12 in Kidwelly church; administration was granted to Elizabeth, his widow, February 10, 1641.² This Elizabeth was apparently baptised, according to the Register of Canterbury Cathedral, April 24, 1614; and unless her baptism was for some cause long postponed she would be under ten years of age at the time of her marriage. She died, according to the "Complete Baronetage," at the house of Mr. George Norbury, at Great St. Bartholomew's, London, September 11, and was buried in Canterbury Cathedral September 20, 1643.³

Regarding Sir Walter's immediate successor in the title there is likewise a conflict of views among the various authorities, apparently the outcome of a lack of enterprise on the part of some of them in the matter of research.

There is no doubt that Walter had a son Francis, who survived his father, and therefore inherited the title. The evidence for the existence of Francis would appear to have been overlooked, however, in the first instance, by the author of the "Complete Baronetage," for he records of Sir Walter that "he died s.p." while Francis appears

¹ Cal. State Papers, 1629-1631; pp. 62, 85. *Ibid.*, 1637-1638; p. 508.

² "Complete Baronetage," by G. E. C. Vol. i., p. 186.

³ Harleian Society, Registers. Vol. ii., pp. 3, 119.

immediately below as "only son and heir"—obviously a slip in neglecting to delete "s.p." after the existence of Francis had been established. It is here stated that "he was living 10 Sept. 1643, being then a minor, and under the age at which he could make choice of a guardian."¹ We are not told whence this information was derived, probably from his mother's will; there is, however, much more precise information concerning Sir Francis than is here adduced.

Sir Leoline Jenkins, Judge of the Court of Admiralty, wrote a short account of the life of Dr. Francis Mansel, Principal of Jesus College, Oxford; and here it is stated (p. 20) that the Principal, in 1651, returned to Oxford, "partly out of a regard to the young scholars now settled at Mr. White's; for one of them was Sir Francis Mansell, the heir of his father's house; Sir Edward and Arthur his brother, Sir Anthony Mansell's two sons," etc.

From this it is apparent that Francis was living eight years later than the date above mentioned, and was then under age—"heir to his father's house." It is noteworthy that Sir Leoline Jenkins alludes to Edward, eldest son of Sir Anthony, as *Sir* Edward, possibly an anticipatory looseness of diction; he was certainly heir presumptive to the title, Francis being under age and unmarried, but it is difficult to believe that he was of age and had been knighted; and if not, whence the style of "Sir"?

There appeared in "Notes and Queries" (September 2, 1916), a communication under the pseudonym "Ap Thomas" concerning the Mansels of Mudfcombe, which contains matter of considerable interest.

The writer herein states that he has discovered the will of Sir Francis Mansel, which is wrongly indexed as *Mandell* at Somerset House; that it was executed October 23, 1654, and proved November 14 following; and this statement has been duly verified. The date of Francis Mansel's death is thus made clear, approximately, and is precisely indicated by another piece of evidence, to be adduced presently.

¹ There does not appear to have been any legal definition of the age at which a minor was entitled to choose his guardian; it is not laid down in any of the Statutes of the Realm anterior to this period.



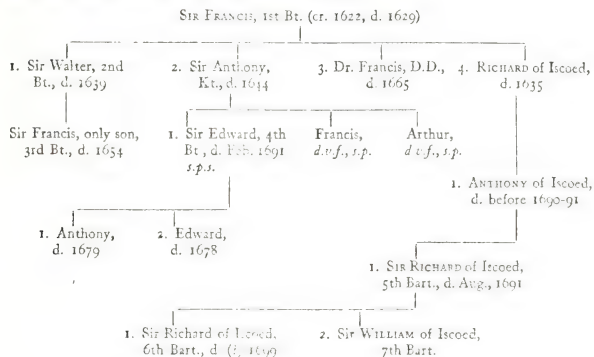
SIR FRANCIS MANSEL, 1ST BARONET OF MUDDLESCOMBE.
Died 1628.



ISCOED MANOR.

The Residence of SIR WM. MANSELL, Bart. 1731.

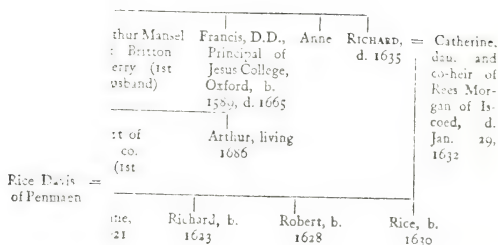
"Ap Thomas" continues: "The will enables me, with some other matter, to solve that 'obscurity in the succession to this baronetcy' which G. E. C. found to exist from c. 1651 to 1691, and which, I am afraid I must say, his account of the family tended to make worse. The following abbreviated pedigree will, I hope, explain the descent of the title to 1691.



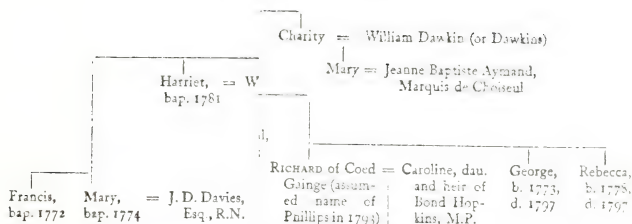
"In his account of the baronetcy, G. E. C. calls Anthony (d. 1679) the son (and h. app.) of Anthony of Iscoed (whom he queries as 5th Bt.). In my little pedigree I show Anthony as the elder (I believe) son of Sir Edward of Muddlescombe, the 4th Bt. That this Anthony was the son of Sir Edward, and not the so-called 'eldest' son of Anthony of Iscoed, may be inferred from two things: (a) an undated letter in the Penrice and Margam MSS. (No. 760), written by this Anthony to his father, Sir Edward, then living at Margam (the seat of another Sir Edward Mansell of Margam, 4th Bt.); (b) that in the pedigrees of the family Richard is stated to be the first son of Anthony of Iscoed, and Anthony is called the second son."

The above pedigree may be compared with the one on pages 98 and 99, which agrees in the descent with that in the "Complete Baronetage" by G. E. C.

Ma Baronets of N



Francis



resumed the = Scotch marriage with Eliza, dau. of Rev
 fanel, 1866, John Sidney. 1878; remarried in 1847

ley, b. of Scotch marriage, 1839; assumed the title in 1903,
 assent of his nephew, Courtenay. Obtained recognition of
 Scotch marriage in 1906, in Scottish Court of Sessions;
 erred to the Lord Advocate in 1907, who declared that it
 in respect of the succession to the English Baronets; it
 or, not registered at the College of Arms; thus Edward
 s never officially recognised as baronet.

Mansel, Baronets of Muddlescombe

Dorothy, dau. of Alban Stepney, of Pendergast, co. Pembroke (and wife), liv. 1662(?)

(Baronets)

Francis Llwyd = Mary Thos. Vychan = Janet II. SIR WALTER, b. 1588, m. Dec. 11, 1623, d. April, 1640

Thomas Broome, = Elizabeth III. SIR FRANCIS, b. 1633, d. Oct. 27, 1673. (Muddlescombe's Obituary)

Rice Davis = Dorotha, bap. 1615 Francis, bap. 1616 Anne, bap. 1617 Edward Carne, of Cowbridge Anthony of Leod, bap. Mar. 6, 1613, d. 1673

Anthony, d. s. p., April, 1679 Mary V. SIR RICHARD, d. 1691

Edward Mary VI. SIR RICHARD, d. s. p., in London, circa 1699

William Susanna Warner = VIII. SIR RICHARD, d. 1749 (1st wife)

Amy = John Rees of Kilymaen-Lloyd IX. SIR WILLIAM, b. Mar. 1739, d. Jan. 5, 1804 (M. I. St. Ishmael's)

Harriet, = W. G. Brigstocke, Esq., of Elgar Pawl, co. Cardigan John, of Smedmore, Dorset, d. 1858 Louisa, dau. and co-heir of Wm. Morton Pleydell, of Whatcombe, Dorset (Mansells of Dorset)

Francis, bap. 1772 Mary, = J. D. Davies, Esq., R.N. bap. 1774 Rev. Wm. John, rector of Ellesborough, Bucks, b. 1791, d. 1823

Elizabeth = Sir Thomas Phillpps, Bart., of Middle Hill, co. Worcester, b. July 2, 1792, d. Feb. 6, 1872

XI. SIR JOHN (2nd son), b. Oct. 1806, d. s. p. in April, 1883

XII. SIR RICHARD, b. Dec., 1850, d. July, 1892

XIII. SIR COURTNEY CREIG MANSSEL, holder of the title in 1918, b. 1880

(98)

SIR EDWARD MANSSEL, = Lady Jane Somerset, dau. of Henry, 2nd Earl of Worcester, d. 1597

SIR FRANCIS MANSSEL, = Catherine, dau. and co-heir of Henry Morgan of Muddlescombe

(Firmament)

Elizabeth, dau. of Charles Fotherby, Dean of Canterbury, d. Sep., 1643 Sir Anthony, slain at Newbury, Sept., 1643 Jane, dau. of Wm. Price of Britton Ferry, d. 1638 Arthur Mansel of Britton Ferry (1st husband) Francis, D.D., Principal of Jesus College, Oxford, b. 1589, d. 1665 Anne RICHARD, d. 1635 Catherine, dau. and co-heir of Rees Morgan of Llan-cord, d. Jan. 19, 1632

IV. SIR EDWARD, = Joan (Jane), dau. of Humphrey Windham of Dunraven Castle d. s. p. Sir Roger Lott of Staapole, co. Pembroke (1st husband) Arthur, living 1686

Mary, dau. of Fdw. Carne of Nash Walter, bap. 1618, d. s. p. John, b. 1620 Katherine, b. 1621 Richard, b. 1623 Robert, b. 1628 Rice, b. 1630

Alice, dau. and co-heir of Rees Davies of Pentre-y-luall, Swansea, d. Dec. 1689 Catherine, bap. 1640 Frances

VII. SIR WILLIAM, = Amy, dau. of Sir Richard Cox; d. before her husband b. Mar. 1670, m. Oct. 18, 1700, d. 1732 Alice Francis

Rebecca, dau. of William Ware of Farnham, co. Cork, d. Dec., 1791 Three daughters

Mary, dau. and heir of John Phillips of Coedganga, co. Carmarthen, d. Dec. 1811, (M. I. St. Ishmael's) Charity = William Dawkin (or Dawkins) Mary = Jeanne Baptiste Aymand, Marquis de Choiseul

Elizabeth, dau. and heir of John Bell of Herefield, Middles, d. Aug., 1843 Robert, General Emma, dau. of Admiral Sir Chas. Tyler Thomas, Admiral, b. 1793

Elizabeth, dau. and heir of John Dyke of Scrivenby, Lincoln, b. Feb., 1801, d. Oct., 1886 Edward Berkeley Phillips COURTNEY, resumed the name of Mansel, 1866, d. 1875 Richard of Coed = Caroline, dau. of George (assumed name of Phillips in 1793) b. 1773, d. 1797 George, b. 1773, d. 1797 Rebecca, b. 1778, d. 1797

Maud, dau. of John Jones of Maces-y-Crugian, Carmarthen, d. Sept., 1885

Edward Berkeley, b. of Scotch marriage, 1839; assumed the title in 1903, with the consent of his nephew, Courtney. Obtained recognition of his parents' Scotch marriage in 1906, in Scottish Court of Sessions; this was referred to the Lord Advocate in 1907, who declared that it was binding in respect of the succession to the English Baronets; it was, however, not registered at the College of Arms; should Edward Berkeley was never officially recognised as Baronet.

(99)

It will at once be apparent that "Ap Thomas" has not cleared up any obscurity in the genealogy, with regard at least to the successive holders of the title ; in this he is at one with G. E. C., though the latter has, perhaps over-cautiously, queried the steps of descent.

With regard to the parentage of the Anthony in question, it is not of great importance, as both sons are stated to have died before their alleged father, Sir Edward ; but the inference which the writer draws from the letter in the Penrice MSS. is not a sound one. He alludes to it as an "undated" letter, which is quite correct in so far that the year is omitted ; it is, however, labelled May 29, and this has an important bearing upon the matter in question, which has obviously escaped the notice of "Ap Thomas."

The summary of the letter in Dr. Birch's collation of the Penrice MSS. runs as follows :

"Letter of Anthony Mansell to his father Sir Edward Mansell, Knt., describing the result of an interview with the Earl of Leicester, etc. ; announcing the death of the Master of the Rolls, etc."

The style of "knight," instead of "baronet," as applied to this Sir Edward, at once arouses suspicion ; but there is a much more precise test of the accuracy of the deduction in "Notes and Queries" supplied by the date of May 29, and the mention of the death of the Master of the Rolls, obviously a recent event.

Now we learn from Foss's "Judges of England," that Sir Henry Powle, Master of the Rolls, died in November, 1692 ; his predecessor, Sir John Churchill, died in October, 1685 ; so it is obvious that this announcement cannot refer to either of these.

There is, however, a Master of the Rolls the date of whose death agrees with that of the letter, and demonstrates that the latter is misplaced chronologically in the collection, between two deeds dated respectively 1697 and 1702.

Sir Edward Mansel, son of Sir Rhys, had likewise a son named Anthony ; also, Sir Edward was a knight, not a baronet, the order not having been then instituted ; and it is on record that Sir William Cordell, Master of the Rolls for three-and-twenty years under Queen Elizabeth, died May 17, 1581, four years before Sir

Edward Mansel—hence the allusion by Anthony when writing on May 29. There appears to be no doubt that this letter was written in 1581 to Sir Edward of Margam knight, and not to Sir Edward of Muddlescombe “then living at Margam,” as maintained by “Ap Thomas,” perhaps a century later. It may therefore be assumed that G. E. C. is correct in his placing of this Anthony.

The writer in “Notes and Queries” is also incorrect in stating that Sir Francis was only two years of age at the death of his father, Sir Walter, in 1640; there happens to have been a monument erected in memory of Sir Francis, from which it is apparent that he was of the age of one-and-twenty when he died, and consequently must have been seven years old at that time.

A *facsimile* of the inscription upon this monument is to be found in a publication of the Camden Society, two volumes entitled “History from Marble,” a production of that industrious traveller, Thomas Dineley (here named Dingley, as was his father), of whom we have already heard in connection with the Duke of Beaufort’s progress in Wales.¹

These two volumes contain an immense number of inscriptions in London churches and elsewhere, reproduced in Dineley’s well-known style; that upon the tomb of Sir Francis Mansel is here given as written by Dineley.

It will be seen from this that Sir Francis was buried in the church of St. Gregory, under the shadow of St. Paul’s—“St. Gregorie by Paul’s,” as Dineley terms it.

The English translation of the inscription is as follows:

“In Sacred Memory of that which remains of Sir Francis Mansell, from the county of Carmarthen in South Wales, Baronet. Simple of manner, cultivated in mind beyond his age, holy of life, whose dust near by awaits a happy resurrection. He died 27 October in the year of our Salvation 1654, aged 21. His only sister sorrowing erects this monument.”²

¹ See *ante*, p. 10.

² Camden Society, 8113, 87. “History from Marble.” Vol. ii., No. cccxxiii. The date here given is equivalent to the pedantic entry “V Cal. Nov.” in the original. The church of St. Gregory was destroyed in the Great Fire of 1666.

This record fixes the year of the birth of Sir Francis as 1633, or thereabouts, and also concurs with the date of his death as indicated in his will. His "only sister" was Elizabeth, who married at a mature age, in 1672, Thomas Broome, Sergeant-at-Law, and was left a widow in the following year.¹

In his will Sir Francis leaves £100 to Dr. Francis Mansel, and makes bequests to his cousin Edward Mansell, of Britton Ferry—who succeeded him in the baronetcy—his cousin Anne, Sir Edward of Margam, Sir Leoline Jenkins, his cousin Anthony, his cousin Walter, his cousin Edward, his cousin's son Anthony, his cousin Walter Thomas, his cousin Francis, his cousin Edward Carne's widow; to his cousin Roger Williams he remits a debt of £10; his dear sister Elizabeth is residuary legatee and one of the executors, the others being Edward Mansel of Britton Ferry, and his cousin Walter.

This Walter Mansel is difficult to place; he may have been a younger son of Richard of Iscoed.

From the will of Sir Francis, and the inscription upon his monument, it is obvious that the date of Sir Edward's succession to the title is fixed at October 27, 1654, and not "about 1650," as in the "Complete Baronetage."

On the death of Sir John Mansel, the eleventh baronet, in 1883, as is apparent from the pedigree, without issue, he was succeeded by Richard, second son of Courtenay (who resumed the name of Mansel in 1866), to the exclusion of Edward Berkeley Mansel, his elder brother. This exclusion was due to the fact that Courtenay Phillips (afterwards Mansel) contracted a Scotch marriage, in 1838, with Eliza, daughter of the Rev. John Sidney; and although this union was probably recognised as regular in Scotland, it was held to be invalid in England for the purpose of succession in the baronetcy. Courtenay Phillips appears to have himself entertained some doubt as to his position, for in 1847 he and his wife were remarried in England, and Richard, born in 1850, succeeded, as above stated, to the title.

At his death, in 1892, his son, Courtenay Cecil, then twelve

¹ *Musgrave's Obituary.*

years of age, assumed the title : but meanwhile his uncle, Edward Berkeley Mansel, had not renounced his claim, and after Courtenay came of age, being persuaded of the validity of his uncle's position, he relinquished the title to him, in 1903.

In the year 1906 Edward Berkeley obtained in the Scottish Court of Sessions a declaration of the validity of his father's marriage in 1838 ; but this was challenged by the College of Arms, where his title had not as yet been recognised or registered ; and at the request of the authorities there the Home Secretary referred the case to the Lord Advocate, who decided in favour of Edward Berkeley Mansel, ruling that the Scottish decision was binding in the case of an English baronetcy. The title was not, however, registered at the College of Arms. Sir Edward Berkeley Mansel died in 1908, and the title was then resumed by Sir Courtenay, the present holder (1918).

It is stated in the " Complete Baronetage " that Sir Richard (twelfth baronet) " succeeded to the title but not to the family estate." Sir John (eleventh baronet) had, in fact, disentailed the Iscoed estate, and on his death (in 1883) it passed to his daughters ; the property of Courtenay Mansel (d. 1875) came to Sir Richard, and that of his brother, Edward Berkeley Phillips, to Edward Berkeley Mansel.

Allusion has already been made to a suit by Dame Dorothy Maunsell against Sir Walter Maunsell, in the year 1638. The summary in the Calendar of State Papers runs as follows :

" June 12. Petition of Dame Dorothy Maunsell, widow, to the King. Petitioner brought an action of debt upon a bond of £6,000 against Sir Walter Maunsell, and thereupon had judgment at the Great Sessions in co. Carmarthen. Defendant brought a writ of error at the Council in the Marches, and there obtained a reversal of the former judgment. She is informed by her counsel that the reversal is erroneous, and that there is just cause to have a writ of error in the Court of King's Bench, but the Lord Keeper makes some difficulty thereof, except he were warranted by your Majesty. Prays the King to require the Lord Keeper to order the Chief Justice and the rest of the Judges of the King's Bench to deliver their opinions to the Lord Keeper of what is agreeable to law in this case.

"1. Direction to the Lord Keeper to require certificate from the Lord Chief Justice and other Judges of the King's Bench to the effect above mentioned."

Now Sir Francis, first baronet, married as his second wife Dorothy, daughter of Alban Stepney; of this Dorothy it is stated in the "Complete Baronetage" that she "was living Dec. 1628. In the calendar of the (now missing) admons. for 1662 are two of 'Dame Dorothy Mansell,' one in April as of 'co. Carmarthen,' and the other in July as of 'co. Pembroke,' both being, presumably, of this lady."

The most obvious assumption is that Dame Dorothy, widow of Sir Francis, was in litigation against her stepson, Sir Walter Mansel.

There is, however, among the MSS. in the repository of the House of Lords, the record of another petition of Dame Dorothy Mansell, the summary of which is as follows:

"Petition of Dame Dorothy Mansell (*sic*). Petitioner obtained a writ of error for the recovery of certain records out of the Court holden by the Lord President and Council in the Principality and Marches of Wales in a cause against her late husband, Sir Walter Mansell. The records are ready to be returned into their Lordships' House, but the Lord President, on account of his great infirmity and sickness, is unable to bring them. Prays that some order may be made whereby the records may be certified, and brought before their Lordships."¹

This is dated in the year 1645, seven years later than the former record, Sir Walter Mansel, the second baronet, having died during the interval; but this Dorothy could not, according to the pedigree, have been the widow of this Sir Walter, for his wife, Elizabeth Fotherby, is there stated to have survived him by three years, so there can be no question of a second marriage.

The petition of Dorothy Mansell above cited, in 1645, alludes to the petitioner having obtained a writ of error in connection with a cause against Sir Walter Mansell, and this was what Dorothy Maunsell was seeking in 1638; and although the surname is spelled differently,

¹ Hist. MSS. Com. Report VI, App. p. 8, b.

the obvious inference is that the Dorothy of the one petition is identical with Dorothy of the other, in spite of the interval of seven years. The law moves slowly in such matters, and the petitioner may have delayed, from some cause or another, to make her application ; but her " late husband " Sir Walter remains to be accounted for—and it does not appear very easy to account for him without clashing with other facts or evidences.

There is the possibility that Dorothy, widow of Sir Francis Mansel, the first baronet, was married a second time to one Sir Walter ; but the hypothesis cannot be presented as feasible or probable ; and even if it be entertained, there is no evidence of the contemporary existence of a second Sir Walter of any branch of the family. Indeed, it is almost impossible to imagine that Sir Walter and Dorothy, named in the two petitions, are not the same persons ; that there should have been two of either name engaged in such similar litigation appears wildly improbable.

Dorothy Maunsell, of the first petition, in 1638, though she is described as a widow, does not allude to Sir Walter Maunsell as her " late husband " ; nor is there any indication in the petition as to the date of the action upon a bond of £6,000 ; but if she was the widow of one Sir Walter Maunsell, this action and his appeal against the judgment must clearly have been prior to the year 1638.

The problem is a curious one, and difficult of solution ; according to the genealogical account in the " Complete Baronetage," Sir Walter Mansel married Elizabeth, daughter of Charles Fotherby, Dean of Canterbury. The author states that this Elizabeth is " often erroneously called Mary," and he comments upon her extreme youth at the time of her marriage, in 1623, as evidenced by the record of her baptism in 1614, which has already been noticed above. Furthermore, he states that the marriage settlement is dated August 2, 1623 ; this should be explicit as to the Christian names, but it does not appear where it is to be found.

There are certain discrepancies to be noted concerning the Fotherbys, which may, together with Elizabeth's age at the time of her alleged marriage, warrant some hesitation in accepting these records.

In the first place, Charles Fotherby was not Dean of Canterbury in 1623; he held the post from May 12, 1615, to March 29, 1619, the date of his death;¹ and the fact of his death in 1619 would account for his daughter's marriage having taken place elsewhere. They were, in fact, married at St. Mary le Strand, December 11, 1623, as testified by the Register.

Now, as to Elizabeth Fotherby's age: assuming that it is she who is referred to in the Register as having been baptised in 1614, she would, as already noticed, have been under ten years of age at her marriage, while Walter Mansel, her alleged husband, was about five-and-thirty at that time. It appears vastly improbable that such a marriage should have been permitted; child marriages were becoming more rare in those days, but when they were, for reasons of family policy, etc., arranged, most usually the bridegroom was likewise of childish age, and the two dwelt apart until they had attained years of puberty.

There is, however, very strong evidence that Elizabeth, baptised in 1614, could not have been Walter Mansel's wife; for the Register records, on October 14, 1624, the baptism of a daughter, Cyslye (or Cecily) of Mr. Walter Mansel, and it will scarcely be maintained that Elizabeth became a mother at the age of ten or eleven. Nor is it more probable that she was withheld from baptism until she was sixteen or seventeen: the date of baptism is invariably accepted as equivalent, within a week or two, to that of birth, and there is no ground for making an exception in this instance.

Nor is it by any means certain that this Elizabeth was daughter to Charles Fotherby.

On October 8, 1610, appears the record of the baptism of "Richard and Marye, ye sonne and daughter of Doctor Fotherbye, one of the worshipful Prebendaries"—this was Martin Fotherby.

¹ "Fasti Ecclesie Anglicane," by John Le Neve. Vol. i., p. 33. In the Dict. Nat. Biog. appears a notice of Martin Fotherby, who is there stated to have been appointed to the Deanery in 1615; but the writer, while referring to Le Neve's Fasti, has apparently confused Martin and Charles; he gives March 29, 1619, as the date of Martin's death, whereas Le Neve cites the epitaph on the tomb in Canterbury Cathedral as evidence of the death of Charles on this date. Martin Fotherby, according to Le Neve, was a Prebendary of Canterbury in 1596, and was consecrated Bishop of Salisbury in 1618 (p. 60).



FRANCIS MAUNSELL, LL.D.,
3rd SON OF SIR FRANCIS MANSEL, 1st BARONET,
Principal of Jesus College, Oxford. Born 1580; died 1665



REV. W. JOHN MANSEL,

Rector of Ellishamough, Bucks.,
Chaplain in Ordinary to King George III.

Born 1759; died 1823.

See page 100.

Charles was Archdeacon at that time, and afterwards held the Deanery and Archdeaconry concurrently until his death.

Again, on April 24, 1614: "Being Easter Day, Elizabeth, the daughter of Mr. Doctor Fotherby"; both dignitaries would be styled "Doctor" in the Register, and Elizabeth, for all the evidence contained therein, may as well have been the daughter of one as of the other.

Since it is clear that this Elizabeth of the baptismal Register in 1614 could not have been the wife of Sir Walter Mansel, and very possibly was the daughter of Martin and not of Charles Fotherby, some discredit, as has already been noted, is cast upon the pedigree as set forth in the "Complete Baronetage."

If Sir Walter married one Elizabeth Fotherby in 1623, she must have been born not later than about 1607, and most probably earlier, though marriages at the age of sixteen were not infrequent; and assuming that she was the daughter of Charles Fotherby, the record of her baptism might reasonably be sought in the Cathedral Register. No such record, however, is to be found therein; and this may be accounted for by the fact that Charles Fotherby was at that time Archdeacon, and as such would not necessarily be resident at Canterbury, either then or in 1614, when the other Elizabeth was baptised; his residence there perhaps commenced with his promotion to the Deanery in 1615. It is extremely improbable that a child of his, born within the Cathedral precincts, should not have been baptised there, and the baptism duly recorded in the Cathedral Register.

Among the "Collections" of White Kennett, Bishop of Peterborough, there are many biographical memoranda, mostly concerning church dignitaries. One of these notices treats of Charles Fotherby, and a transcript is given of the epitaph on his tomb, in the Chapel of the Blessed Virgin, Canterbury Cathedral, the second paragraph of which runs as follows: "He had one and one only wife for thirty-one years, Cecilia Walker of Cambridge, by whom he had ten children, of whom five dying left the following: John, married to Elizabeth daughter of Anthony Cook, Knight; Phoebe married to Henry Palmer, Knight, of Kent; and Priscilla married to Robert

John Moyle Esquire, of Buckwell in the same county. Two remain unmarried, Elizabeth and Mabel."

A pedigree in manuscript corroborates these marriages, etc., Elizabeth and Mabel being shown as unmarried; according to this pedigree Charles and Martin Fotherby were both sons of Martin (or Maurice) Fotherby of Lincolnshire, Charles being the elder. In another notice by Bishop Kennett it is stated that Martin was consecrated Bishop of Salisbury in April, 1618, and died in the following year, a week or two before his brother Charles; this is corroborated by Dugdale.¹

There appears to be no doubt that Charles Fotherby had a daughter Elizabeth; but as there is only one Elizabeth in the Register, and it has been demonstrated that she could not have been Sir Walter Mansel's wife, it is quite possible that she may have been Martin Fotherby's daughter; he is credited with a daughter of that name in the pedigree above alluded to.

The administration of Sir Walter Mansel's estate, granted to Elizabeth his widow, has been verified in the original at Somerset House. Who, then, was the Sir Walter who was married to one Dorothy? The reply does not appear to be forthcoming; possibly some further light may be thrown upon the subject later on. The point does not immediately affect the genealogy, so far as can be seen; there is no doubt that Sir Francis was the son of Sir Walter by Elizabeth his wife.

Later on another apparent discrepancy in the genealogy presents itself.

Sir John Bell Mansel, who succeeded to the title in 1829, is noted as being second but eldest surviving son of Sir William, the tenth baronet; and this is corroborated by the following record in the *Gentleman's Magazine*: "At Southgate, of a son and heir, Mrs. Mansel, relict of the Rev. William John Mansel, late rector of Ellesborough and Hithe, and eldest son of Sir William Mansel Bart."² The date is October 1, 1823, six years before the death of

¹ Lansdowne MSS. 983, fol. 349; *ibid.* 984, fol. 13; Addit. MSS. 5509, fol. 70. Mon. Angl. (second edition). Vol. vii, p. 1292.

² *Gentleman's Magazine*. Vol. xciii., pt. ii., p. 307.

Sir William. This posthumous child of the Rev. William John Mansel is correctly styled "son and heir"; he was undoubtedly heir to the baronetcy, and Sir John could only have succeeded to the title in 1829 in the event of the previous death of this boy.

There is, however, a further announcement in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, as follows: "Deaths. 21 July, 1829. Sir William Mansel, eighth Baronet of Muddlescombe, co. Carmarthen. He is succeeded by his grandson, a minor, son of the late Rev. Wm. John Mansel, who died in 1823."¹

Here, of course, is an error, in that Sir William is alluded to as the *eighth* baronet, whereas he was the *tenth*; but the *Gentleman's Magazine* is merely repeating the extraordinary blunder of which nearly every genealogist was guilty at that time, in omitting all reference to Sir Walter and Sir Francis, the second and third baronets.

The *Gentleman's Magazine* is usually accepted as reliable in respect of such announcements, though it is not quite clear upon what authority the records are inserted: the natural assumption would be that the information was imparted by some member of the family. In this instance, however, it certainly was not so imparted, for, as a matter of fact, this posthumous child only survived its birth by a few hours, and the members of the Mansel family most nearly concerned were much annoyed at the time by this unwary and inaccurate assertion. Had it been true, the present baronet would have been the fourteenth; but in the face of precise information from him as to the true facts, the genealogy of the Baronets Mansel of Muddlescombe as here set forth must be maintained as strictly accurate.

The Rev. William John Mansel was born about the year 1791; there is a mural tablet to him in Ellesborough church, upon which it is stated that he was thirty-two years of age when he died. He was presented to the living of Ellesborough, Bucks. August 28, 1818, by Robert Greenhill Russell, Esq. He was also presented to the Rectory of Heath (spelled *Hithe* in the obituary notice),

¹ *Gentleman's Magazine*. Vol. xcix., pt. iii., p. 648.

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co. Oxon, by the king, in 1817, and was appointed a Chaplain in Ordinary.¹

He married, July 2, 1814, Harriet Charlotte, daughter of Laver Oliver, Esq., of Brill House, Bucks. Mr. Oliver's three daughters were married on the same day: Harriet to Mr. Mansel; Mary to Lieut.-Colonel Charles Manners Sutton, son of the Archbishop of Canterbury; and Eliza to the Rev. William Stephen Gilly, of Wanstead, Essex;² rather an unusual family incident. From the portrait group here reproduced it would appear that these three ladies were all blessed with more than ordinary good looks.

The most prominent member of this branch of the family is undoubtedly Francis, third son of Sir Francis, first baronet.

Francis Mansel was born, according to his intimate friend and biographer, Sir Leoline Jenkins, on Palm Sunday, 1588, which almost certainly means 1589, Palm Sunday occurring before March 25; this is confirmed by the record of his matriculation at Jesus College, Oxford, in 1607, when he is stated to have been eighteen years of age.³

There is in the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford a MS. Life of Dr. Francis Mansel; this is stated by William Wynne, sergeant-at-law, in a biography of Sir Leoline Jenkins, to have been written by Sir Leoline with his own hand.⁴ It was printed in 1854, and presents Mansel's life and personality with brief and straightforward simplicity and affection.

From this history it appears that Francis was educated at Hereford, and thence went to Jesus College, Oxford, where he took his degrees as Bachelor and Master of Arts as a Commoner. Sir

¹ "History of Buckinghamshire," by Geo. Lipcomb. Vol. ii., p. 183.

² *Ibid.* Vol. i., p. 112.

³ "Alumni Oxonienses," Vol. iii., p. 667. "Register of the Visitors of the University of Oxford." (Camden Society, p. 398.) In the Dict. Nat. Biog. he is stated to have been born in 1579; this, however, is an error.

⁴ Sir Leoline Jenkins, that great scholar of Jesus College under Francis Mansel, and who in 1641, at the outbreak of the civil war, with him, Sir Leoline had a distinguished career, before emigrating to France, and returning to his country; he was Judge of the Court of Admiralty from 1671, and Privy Counsellor and Secretary of State in 1679. He also succeeded Francis Mansel as Principal of Jesus College. He was of Welsh extraction, and a staunch Royalist.



View of Government Building from the East



Queen Elizabeth presenting the Charter of Jesus College to Sir Leoline Jenkins (Principal). Sir Francis Mordaunt in background.

QUEEN ELIZABETH PRESENTING THE CHARTER
OF JESUS COLLEGE TO SIR LEOLINE JENKINS (Principal).
Sir Francis Mordaunt in background.

ST GREGORY'S Church

At the death of Sir Francis Mordaunt, Bart. of Muddescombe, the following inscription was placed on the wall of the church.

N S
CIVIS ANGLIÆ ET
D. FRANCIS MORDAUNT BACAL. DIGNITAS,
MARITIMUS I. MONTI. ESCH. COLLEGE,
MORVM CANDOR, VITA PAMPHILIC, SUIA
ÆTATEM EXIMIA, DATIS RESURRECTIONEM,
IN VICINO PRÆLATO
PRÆSTOLATUR
OBITI V. CAL. NOV.
D. GRATIS SUÆ
AN. SALUTIS N. 1654
UNICA SOROR MÆSTISS. H. M. P. C.

INSCRIPTION TO SIR FRANCIS, 2nd BART. OF MUDDIESCOMBE,
IN ST. GREGORY'S CHURCH.

Leoline Jenkins tells us that : " In the year 1613 he stood to be fellow of All-Souls as Founder's Kinsman ; but that pretension being little welcome there, he was forced to waive it, and came in the following election ; whence upon the death of Mr. Griffin Powell, Principal of Jesus College, he was in the year 1620 elected to succeed him in the Headship."

With regard to Francis Mansel's claim to become a fellow of All Souls College "as Founder's Kinsman," it will be recollected that his great-grandfather, Jenkin Mansel, married a granddaughter of Agnes Chicheley, who was grandniece to Henry Chicheley, Archbishop of Canterbury, the founder of All Souls.¹ Certainly this claim on the part of Francis appears somewhat far-fetched, and it is not wonderful that it should have been "little welcome"; his "kinship" with the founder was considerably watered down by the lapse of time.

However, he was duly elected a fellow of All Souls upon his merits ; and this fact, together with his selection for the important post of Principal of Jesus College, at the comparatively early age of thirty-one, undoubtedly indicates that he was regarded as a man of high character and unusual attainments ; nor was this estimate of his worth in any degree stultified, but rather enhanced, in his subsequent career.

Mansel's election as principal was, however, by no means unanimous or unopposed : probably there was considerable jealousy among other Fellows who considered that they had more claim to the advancement. He was appointed on June 28, and on July 13 he expelled from their fellowships three of those who had opposed his election ; a few days later he proceeded against a fourth. This was not a happy commencement in his new office, nor was his tenure of it a lengthy one on this occasion. In the following year, 1621, before his "year of grace" at All Souls had expired, he resigned, and retired on his fellowship.

This retirement Sir Leoline Jenkins states was effected in favour of Sir Eubule Thelwall, "in contemplation of his greater abilities to enlarge the buildings, and to increase the revenue of the

¹ See Vol. I., p. 276.

College." This is corroborated in Wood's "*Fasti Oxoniensis*"—"Francis Mansell resigned on a prospect of some advantage which would accrue to this society thereby."¹

Sir Leoline also tells us that the fellowship was more lucrative than the headship, and entailed less expense; but he is by no means a good biographer, in spite of his affectionate admiration of his subject, and does not succeed in making a clear consecutive story. Having recorded Mansel's resignation, after less than twelve months' tenure of office, he proceeds to dilate upon his success in the choice of "*Foundation-men*," and names a number of these who, to Mansel's credit, became afterwards distinguished; quite ignoring the obvious fact that it was impossible, during a few months, by no means free from internal disagreements, that the principal should exercise any such permanent influence.

It must have been after his resumption of the headship, in 1630, that Mansel got a hold on affairs, and doubtless effected much good by his counsel and example. Sir Leoline does not mention his return at this date, but proceeds to dilate upon the troubles which followed the visitation of the University by the Parliamentary officials, in 1647.

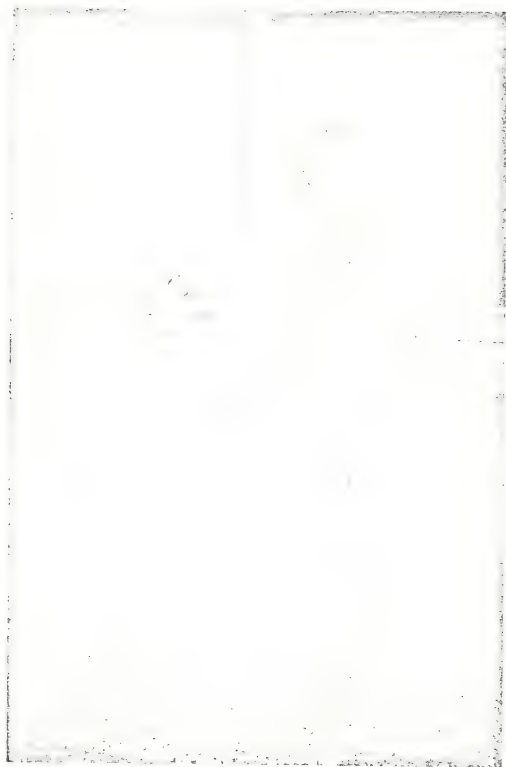
Anthony à Wood, in his *History of the University of Oxford*, gives a very full account of the visitation, commencing with the not unaturally bitter sentence: "It being now thought convenient by 'the blessed Parliament' (so it was now called by those that assumed to themselves the name of 'beloved Saints') that it was high time for the University of Oxford to be visited (eagerly desired also by a pitiful sort of people called Seekers, that had since the surrender thrust themselves into the University) an ordinance was made by them for that purpose on the 1st of May."

In accordance with this ordinance, a committee of four-and-twenty visitors was appointed, with ample powers to deal with every possible and probable contingency: to call before it all or any of the officials and scholars of the various colleges and require their acceptance of the "*Solemn League and Covenant*," the "*Negative Oath*,"

¹ "*Fasti Oxoniensis*," by A. Wood; p. 577.



SIR WM. MANSEL,
6th BARONET OF MUDDLESCOMBE.
Born 1739; died 1804.



LT.-GENERAL ROBT. CHRISTOPHER MANSEL,
SON OF SIR WILLIAM, 6th BARONET OF MUDDLES'COMBE.

and such other formulæ as had been invented and instituted by Parliament to meet the extraordinary circumstances of the times.

The visitors, having behind them the whole force of the "Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament," were bound, of course, to prevail in the end: but their summons was met in the first instance by a most determined and logical *non possumus* on the part of the Heads and Scholars of the University, who demanded to be informed of the nature of the Commission upon which the visitors acted—whether it was issued by the king, or in his name, or under the Great Seal: declaring that by their statutes and ordinances the king himself was their only authorised visitor, or some person or persons directly delegated by him.

Receiving no satisfactory reply to these demands, the Heads repeatedly refused when summoned to present themselves before the visitors; and when any of them did attend, they framed their replies in such a fashion—pre-arranged among them—that the visitors obtained no kind of satisfaction therefrom. Dr. Samuel Fell, the vice-chancellor, was so persistently hostile and obstructive that he was imprisoned.

The University, in short, was practically a Royalist community, and none was more loyal than Francis Mansel, who, with the great majority of officials and scholars, was deprived of his post and compelled to leave Oxford.

Sir Leoline Jenkins asserts that "of sixteen Fellows and sixteen Scholars (of Jesus College) there remained but one Fellow and one Scholar that was not outed at the Visitation of the two Houses in 1647."

During these seventeen years since his reappointment in 1630, however, Francis Mansel had devoted himself entirely to his College, with a whole-hearted zeal and untiring energy which could not fail of success.

His exemplary life and pleasing personality procured him immense and beneficial influence over the scholars, in whom, and all who came in contact with him, he appears to have inspired the deepest admiration and affection.

Nor was he content with thus contributing to the moral and

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scholarly tone of the College; he interested himself deeply in the various buildings, and inaugurated a scheme of renovation and reconstruction on generous lines, not doubting but that, through the generosity of friends, and through his own private means, the necessary funds would be forthcoming. Nor was he disappointed, though the Civil War caused the loss of large contributions which had been promised.

Sir Lewis Mansel, as we have seen, subscribed for several years, and other Welshmen were not backward. Indeed, Jesus College was founded, in 1591, by a Welshman, one Hugh ap Rhys; and among the list of benefactors in Wood's History there are very few who are not either Welshmen, or from the Marches or border counties of Wales. Hugh ap Rhys (or Dr. Hugh Price, as he is subsequently styled) bequeathed the sum of £700 to the College.

Anthony à Wood says that "the Building being finished, was possessed forthwith by Welsh Scholars, they in the mean time having inhabited in Whyte Hall, which stood on the place on which afterwards was built the west side of the Quadrangle."¹ The buildings were, however, finished only in a restricted sense; much remained to be done, and Francis Mansel, as before stated, devoted himself to the task of completion.

With regard to Wood's statement that the Welsh scholars formerly occupied Whyte (or White) Hall, the following is of interest: "We had not anciently as we have now (1781) Colleges for the habitation of Scholars; but Scholars lived in hired houses, amongst those of the Town. And when a Master or Tutor hired a house, for the use of himself and his scholars, such House was wont to be called a Hall, and he the Principal of that Hall. The number of such Halls being indefinite, sometimes more, sometimes fewer, as there was occasion."²

Although Mansel was prevented by the war from carrying out all his building designs, he accomplished a great deal; and

¹ "Fasti Oxoniensis," p. 570.

² "Collectanea Curiosa," by John Gutch. Vol. ii., p. 58. John Gutch (1746-1831) was a clergyman and antiquary of some note. He edited the first English edition of Wood's "History and Antiquities of the University of Oxford," with valuable additions of his own.



CAROLINE, DAUGHTER OF B. B. HOPKINS,
WIFE OF RICHARD MANSEL,
OF COED GAINGE, CARMARTHENSHIRE.



MAJOR EDWARD BERKELEY PHILLIPS,

1st Life Guards.

Brother of Major Courtney Mansel,
of 15th Hussars



MAJOR COURTNEY MANSEL,

Late of the 15th Hussars.

Married Elizabeth, daughter of Rev. John Sydney, 1847.
Father of Sir E. B. Mansel.

through the munificence of various Welshmen, and finally of Sir Leoline Jenkins, who succeeded Mansel as Principal, the College was at length completed as it now stands.

Sir Leoline tells us that Mansel was in Wales at the commencement of the Civil War, arranging with various prospective benefactors for the supply of funds; and that he, together with Dr. Frewyn, later Archbishop of York, and Dr. Sheldon, afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury, resided for several months at the house of Sir Anthony Mansel, brother to Francis; they all returned to Oxford, however, at the end of the year 1642.¹

Dr. Mansel was now under orders from the Court to house certain "persons of quality"; to wit, Lord Herbert and others,² who had come out of Wales upon the king's service.

In September, 1643, however, he was horrified by receiving the news of the tragic death of his brother, Sir Anthony, at the battle of Newbury, and, according to his biographer, was so overwhelmed by the shock that his life was in danger. Recovering his health, Dr. Francis hastened to Wales to settle his brother's affairs, and attend to the welfare of his orphaned children. Sir Leoline Jenkins remarks that his zeal for the king's cause, and his faith in its justness, exceeded his solicitude on behalf of Sir Anthony's children, for he lent all the money, amounting to upwards of £1,000, which Sir Anthony left, to the Commissioners of Array for Charles's affairs, and never saw a penny of it again.

However, he continued to exert himself in the king's cause, by precept and example; and as Glamorgan was exempt for the time from the inroad of Parliamentary forces, he found plenty of scope for his zeal among the refugees who fled thither, having been driven from their homes. "And 'twas prodigious to observe how careful he was for the accommodation and supply of such persons, since it may be truly averred, that there was no stranger of quality, military or

¹ Frewyn (or Frewen) was President of Muddalen College; Sheldon was Warden of All Souls. The latter was imprisoned for refusing to surrender his lodgings to the Committee of Visitation, in 1648. Frewen was also a student in *Rapin's* life.

² Henry Somerset, Marquess of Worcester, April 3, 1607; created Duke of Beaufort December 2, 1682.

civil, clergy or lay, either in that or the neighbour counties of Monmouth or Carmarthen, who did not either receive a supply of ready money at his hands, or else an affectionate tender of such supply or of any other service."

Apparently Mansel, placing the king's cause before all else, and deeming his presence in Wales more serviceable in this regard than the resumption of his duties at Oxford, remained absent therefrom until the year 1647, when, hearing of the approaching visitation by the Parliamentary Commission, he hastened to Oxford, with characteristic courage and enthusiasm, to "face the music."

Jenkins states that the Earl of Pembroke, who was connected by marriage with the Mansels, and whose two sons had been scholars under Mansel at Oxford, offered to make things smooth for him. Pembroke was at that time, on behalf of the Parliament, Chancellor of Oxford, and he could, no doubt, have exerted sufficient influence to retain Dr. Francis in his post, if the latter would have consented to some compromise between his loyalty and his own interests.

The earl discovered, however, that he was "up against" a stone wall, upon which no offer of favours, whether sincere or otherwise, could make the least impression.¹

"When his turn came," says Jenkins, "he published his non-submission with that excellent mixture of modesty and courage, as made his visitors ashamed of their Reformation, and open to bemoan the difficulty of the times that forced them to turn out a person not only in his life and conduct unblameable even to the highest rigour and partiality (his adhering to the King, which was his only crime, excepted), but so highly useful to the College he related

¹ Philip Herbert (fourth Earl of Pembroke of the creation of 1551, directly descended from Philip Mansel of Oxwich), was not the sort of man of whom such an one as Francis Mansel would be prone to accept favours. He is described as "an ingrate, an ignoramus, a common swearer, a bully, and a coward." Samuel Butler wrote of him—

"Pembroke's a covenanting Lord
That ne'er with God or man kept word;
One day he'd swear he'd serve the king,
The next 'twas quite another thing;
Still changing with the wind and tide
That he might keep the stronger side."

Probably his reputation was well known to Francis Mansel.

to, that they seemed (in their confession) to take from it the only stay and pillar that was likely (as the times then went) by his prudence, interest, and zeal to preserve it from utter ruin and desolation."

Whether or not the usurpers of the principal's office were as deeply impressed as is here indicated by Sir Leoline, perhaps an over-enthusiastic narrator, there appears to be no doubt that Dr. Francis exhibited a noble patience and dignity under such trying conditions, and that his solicitude for his beloved College occupied the first place in his mind.

The actual order of eviction did not come into force until May, 1648: during the interim Mansel busied himself over the affairs of the College with as much care and solicitude as though he were to continue in charge. He obtained from Lord Herbert of Cherbury the promise of the legacy of his Greek and Latin books to Jesus College, which was duly fulfilled; ¹ he secured the promise of certain benefactions to the College, and conveyed the emoluments of sundry Church appointments which he held for a like purpose: and he left behind him his private library of some six or seven hundred volumes of theological and other works.

When at length the time of compulsory departure arrived, Mansel had prepared a statement of accounts with scrupulous accuracy; and having handed over his charge to the intruders, he betook himself once more into Wales, to the house of Sir John Aubrey (who was at that time in prison by reason of his unpromising loyalty to King Charles) at Llantrithyd.²

This residence, Sir Leoline Jenkins remarks, "afforded him the conveniency of a more private retirement and of having several young gentlemen of quality, his kindred, under his eye, while they were taught and bred up by a young man of his college that he had chosen for that employment."

We learn from William Wynne, of the Middle Temple, in his

¹ Lord Herbert made his will August 1, and died August 20, 1648. His bequest remains in Jesus College library.

² Sir John Aubrey was son of Sir Thomas, by his marriage with Mary, daughter of Anthony, son of Sir Rhys Munt. At the Restoration Sir John was created a baronet, July 23, 1660. The title became extinct in 1856.

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Life of Sir Leoline Jenkins, that this "young man," of whom Mansel's biographer speaks, was none other than Leoline Jenkins himself : that he was in the first instance entrusted with the tuition of Sir John Aubrey's son, and proved himself so industrious and efficient that other young men of good family were soon placed under his instruction, to be "improved in just and virtuous principles, as well as letters."

Thus was established at Llantrithyd a sort of "Hall," in imitation of those at the University, with Leoline Jenkins as tutor, and Dr. Francis Mansel exercising a capable and beneficent supervision.

This state of things was not, however, destined to continue for very long ; the Parliamentarians soon invaded the neighbourhood, and displayed but little appreciation of the studies of the little community.

Mansel was soon selected as the butt of the soldiery, by reason of his personality.

"For the Doctor's very grave and pious aspect, which should have been a protection to him among savages, was no other than a temptation to those (who reputed themselves Saints) to act their insolencies upon him : once meeting him in his walk they took him for *an old priest* (as they called him) and searched his pocket for letters ; another time they came to Llantrithyd House, and a barbarous crew of them, not contented to deride him openly to his face for his canonical habit (which he constantly wore) and for his using the Liturgy in public twice a day, which he never omitted, among the young scholars in the house, they fell a searching for Common Prayer Books, and finding about a dozen of them in the parlour where he used to officiate, they pleased themselves hugely with making one blaze of fire of so many books ; but, which was yet more barbarous, they laid hands on his person, and one Clements (a farrier by trade) but a preacher by profession ripped and tore his canonical cassock about him that it dangled from his girdle downwards, in so many small shreds or thongs as made them great sport ; the pious old man with eyes and hands lifted up to Heaven saying no other ' but that his Blessed Saviour had suffered for him and his

martyred Sovereign had suffered by them infinitely more than he was able to suffer or they to inflict upon his poor person.' And having satiated themselves with inselencies, in defacing the King's arms not only in several windows but in chimney pieces and other curious pieces of art and ornament about the house, they ended the scene of mirth upon the Common Prayer Book and Apocrypha, which they tore out of the great Bible in the neighbour church, and carried away the young man prisoner for the better disposing of his scholars, which was a reformation they principally aimed at in this affront upon the Doctor."

Jenkins was indicted at the Quarter Sessions for holding "a Seminary of Rebellion and Sedition"; and as he refused to renounce his principles as a Royalist, he was compelled to leave the neighbourhood.

By the advice of Dr. Mansel, Jenkins went to Oxford, accompanied by his pupils, and settled there in the house of Alderman White, in the High Street, which became known by the title of the "Little Welsh Hall."

This was in the year 1651; and shortly afterwards Dr. Mansel, as previously related, followed them to Oxford, where he took up his abode at a baker's in Holy Well. But the Parliamentarians, realising his worth, and the interest which he took in the College, so far relaxed as to offer him a room therein. "This motion was accepted, and he lived in the College, near the stony stairs near the gate, for eight years, where he had leisure to observe many changes and revolutions, within those walls, as without them, till that happy one of his Majesty's Restoration, by God's infinite mercy to the College as well as to the nation, happily came on."

Here Mansel busied himself in acts of charity, in visiting the little community at Mr. White's house, and in constantly collecting money for the king's cause, and for the relief of the exiled clergy, practising great austerities in his mode of living, in order that he might have more funds available for these ends.

The Covenanters naturally regarded these matters with disapproval; and after a time they resolved to break up the gathering at Mr. White's house. This decree reaching the ears of Dr. Sheldon

and others, they advised that these scholars should voluntarily disperse, without waiting for orders, and this suggestion was adopted.

When the Restoration supervened Mansel was indignant at the haste with which many pressed for restitution, before the more important affairs of the Church and State were settled; nor would he make any application to the committee or visitors appointed to restore order in the University, patiently waiting until they sent for him.

When at length restored to the headship of his beloved College, his chief care was to settle all his available property upon it, and to see a successor appointed who would take an equal interest in all that concerned it.

By his will he gave all that he possessed to the College, naming his successor in the headship executor; and Sir Leoline Jenkins tells us that "the College bath at this Time of his Benefaction about £1600 in buildings erected in his time, £40 a year in free-hold improveable to fourscore, £95 a year in Lease, under the Prebends that succeeded him, besides several other Benefactions which came to the College by his solicitation and in his time."

Mansel wished that he should be succeeded by Dr. William Bassett, Fellow of All Souls, and Justice of the Peace and Deputy-Lieutenant of Glamorganshire; but Dr. Bassett's health would not admit of his undertaking the office, so it was by unanimous consent bestowed upon Sir Leoline Jenkins, on March 1, 1661.

Dr. Francis Mansel lived for over four years after he resigned his office: he appears to have spent this time in preparing for death, and greatly to have edified those who surrounded him by his piety and devotion.

He died May 1, 1665, at the age of seventy-six.

In the chapel of Jesus College there is a monument to Francis Mansel, in white marble, with a long inscription in Latin; the original is given in the Appendix, with a translation.

There is a record among the Margam Abbey MSS. of "an acquittance by Francis Mansel to the Lady Elizabeth Seabright of Margam,¹ for the use of the Wardens and Fellows of All Souls'

¹ Formerly the wife of Sir Lewis Mansel, married to Sir Edward Seabright.



SIR EDWARD BURLINGAME MANSFIELD

Who held office only one day in 1894, is not colored in this engraving.



JULIA, LADY MANSFIELD, nee JULIA EVANS LAMB.

Widow of the late Sir Edward Burlingame Mansfield.
of London, November



SIR COURTNEY C. MANSUEL, 13th BARONET.

Born 1880.

College, Oxford, for £66 11 6½d. rent for the tithes of Langewith and Penarth, for a year due last Michaelmas. 7 Feb. 1645."¹

There is another document among the Margam Abbey MSS. which gives rise to some further conjecture regarding the Mansels of Muddlescombe; the summary runs as follows:

"Lease for ninety-nine years by Sir Edward Mansel of Muddlescombe, co. Carmarthen, Bart., to Robert Mansel of Muddlescombe, gentleman, of a messuage and tenement called Sythin-y-garreg, 'within the liberty of the town of Kidwelly,' if the said Robert, and Francis Mansel his nephew so long live, at an annual rent of £10. 4 Feb. 1657 (1658)."² Among the witnesses appear Henry Mansel and Walter Mansel.

The lessor is obviously Sir Edward the fourth baronet of Muddlescombe, who succeeded to the title in 1654. Robert (b. 1628) and Walter (b. 1618) confirm the pedigree; Francis, apparently nephew to Robert, is not so readily accounted for; Anthony of Iscoed (d. 1673) may have had another son of this name. Henry is also problematical; he may have been the fourth son of Thomas, first baronet of Margam—he would be an old man—or third son of Sir Edward, fourth baronet.

Sir Richard, sixth baronet, of whom little is known otherwise, appears to have got into trouble in the year 1693 in consequence of a brawl with an apothecary named Pickering. The apothecary demanded payment of an overdue account, in terms which appeared, in the judgment of the baronet, somewhat too peremptory. To quarrel, *i.e.*, to fight a duel, with a person in the position of an apothecary would have been considered "impossible" for a man of Sir Richard's rank; it was, however, regarded as quite permissible that he should "draw" on the offender,³ and this Sir Richard

¹ Penrice and Margam MSS. Series iv., pt. ii., p. 154; no. 6293.

² *Ibid.* Series iv., pt. iii., p. 139.

³ Henry Howard, afterwards sixth Duke of Norfolk, according to Whitelock, "slew one Mr. Holland in the passage going to the Star Chamber, where a Committee sat." Holland was a member of a family which had for some generations supplied a steward or agent for the Howard estates; obviously the future duke could not fight him—so he killed him within a few yards of the Star Chamber! (See "The House of Howard," by G. Brennan and E. P. Statham. Vol. ii., p. 576.)

proceeded to do. Whether he intended to run the other through is not clear; but the result was that Pickering, starting back hastily from the drawn sword, fell off the raised walk, breaking his leg, and otherwise injuring himself so that he died shortly afterwards; and Sir Richard was arrested on a charge of murder. On July 18 the queen commands Sir John Trenchard (Secretary of State) to send Sir Richard Mansel's petition for bail to the Lord Chief Justice, which she is willing should be granted, if in accordance with the law. On August 17 a warrant was issued for granting a pardon to Mansel, "condemned to death for being concerned in the death of William Pickering." On August 17 this is repeated, with slightly different wording: "convicted of the murder or manslaughter of William Pickering."¹

So the apothecary paid with his life for his temerity in "dunning" the baronet, and the latter obtained a free pardon from the sovereign; but perhaps there were circumstances in the case which do not appear on the surface.

Through the marriage of John, fourth son of Sir William, the ninth baronet, a branch of the family became settled in Dorset; they will be dealt with in another chapter.

Sir Thomas Phillipps (1792-1872), who married Elizabeth, daughter of the Rev. W. J. Mansel, Rector of Ellesborough, was a famous antiquary and collector of manuscripts and books. He had married first, in 1819, Harriet, daughter of Lieut.-General Sir Thomas Molyneux, Bart.; his marriage with Elizabeth Mansel took place in 1842.

Sir Thomas gives his own pedigree in his additions to Bigland's "Gloucestershire"; it has already been transcribed in the first volume.²

His taste for reading and for the collection of books developed while he was a schoolboy at Rugby, where he spent all his pocket-money in this manner. At Oxford his fervour increased; and on the death of his father, in 1818, he found himself a wealthy man, with

¹ Cal. State Papers, Dom., 1693; pp. 229, 262, 273.

² See Vol. i., p. 93.



SCENE OF LOVE.

And now we must bid adieu to all our friends and go to bed. (Exit all.)

large estates in Worcestershire; and thenceforth he made the collection of rare manuscripts the business of his life.

An antiquary who is possessed of ample means is obviously in a very happy position for the pursuit of his hobby, being able to outbid other competitors at home and abroad.

Sir Thomas, in the preface to a catalogue of MSS., says: "In amassing my collection of manuscripts, I commenced with purchasing everything that lay within my reach, to which I was instigated by reading various accounts of the destruction of valuable manuscripts. My principal search has been for historical, and particularly unpublished, manuscripts, whether good or bad, and more particularly those on vellum. My chief desire for preserving vellum manuscripts arose from witnessing the unceasing destruction of them by goldbeaters: my search for charters or deeds by their destruction in the shops of glue-makers and tailors. As I advanced the ardour of the pursuit increased, until at last I became a perfect vello-maniac (if I may coin a word), and I gave any price that was asked. Nor do I regret it, for my object was not only to secure good manuscripts for myself, but also to raise the public estimation of them, so that their value might be more generally known, and, consequently, more manuscripts preserved. For nothing tends to the preservation of anything so much as making it bear a high price."

Sir Thomas was a very happy and fortunate enthusiast, and he acquired an unrivalled collection of manuscripts of every description. He spent four or five years on the Continent, purchasing manuscripts in Belgium, Holland, France, Germany, and Switzerland. Some of the illustrated and illuminated specimens which he acquired were of great beauty and immense value. He also obtained some very rare copies of manuscripts bound in ornamental metal and studded with gems.

He also purchased many old and interesting printed books; while coins and pictures did not escape his voracious appetite.

With the view of facilitating access to some of his manuscripts, he erected a private printing-press in a tower on his estate

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at Middle Hill, where he printed catalogues, notes, etc., in great profusion.

Sir Thomas was created a baronet July 27, 1821, and was High Sheriff for Worcestershire in 1825; he was a trustee of the British Museum, a Fellow of the Royal Society, and of the principal learned societies at home and abroad. He died February 6, 1872.

CHAPTER III

Baronets of Trimsaren

SIR FRANCIS MANSEL, first baronet of Muddlescombe, married as his second wife Dorothy, daughter of Alban Stepney, of Prendergast, county Pembroke.

The Mansels and Stepneys intermarried several times, and there are some points of interest to be noted in connection with the Stepney pedigree, which is here given as probably correct, though authorities differ in some respects.

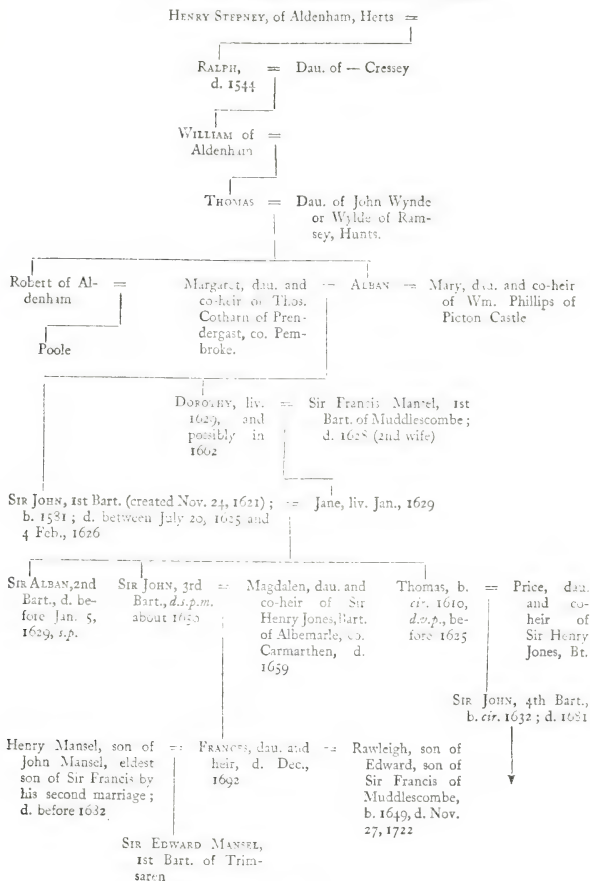
In most genealogies Sir Alban, second baronet, is ignored; but the will of Sir John, first baronet, is proved by Sir Alban Stepney, baronet, of whose estates also administration is granted, January 5, 1629, under the same title.

Sir John, first baronet, is stated, in Betham's Baronetage, to have died in August, 1634, and in the "Complete Baronetage," by G. E. C., in August, 1624. His will, however, is dated July 20, 1625, and proved February 4, 1626, so he must have died between these dates. His wife is named Katherine in Wotton's and Betham's genealogies, and Mr. R. G. Maunsell (p. 37) has "Catherine (Jane)"; but both in Sir John's will and in the grant of administration of Sir Alban's estate she is named Jane. It does not appear how the name of Katherine came to be introduced.

This lady is placed in all the genealogies as daughter of Sir Francis Mansel of Muddlescombe by his *second* wife, Dorothy, daughter of Alban Stepney: Sir John Stepney, therefore, according to this contention, married the daughter of his sister Dorothy.

The marriage of uncle and niece has been within the "prohibited degrees" from Elizabethan times; in "The Laws of England" it is stated that "a marriage between persons within the

STEPNEY-MANSEL PEDIGREE





LATHBURY CHURCH,
NEWPORT PAGNELL, BUCKS.



THE PARK, LATHBURY HOUSE,
NEWPORT PAGNELL, BUCKS.
The Residence of Colonel Mansell Dawkins Mansell.

prohibited degrees of consanguinity or affinity is absolutely null and void for all purposes whatsoever." This disability does not appear, however, to have been definitely enforced by law until 1835; such marriage was formerly "only voidable by sentence of the Ecclesiastical Court during the lifetime of the parties";¹ and it may therefore be assumed that, in the absence of appeal to the Ecclesiastical Court, it would be recognised, and the issue would be legitimate.

The evidence upon which Jane is placed as issue of Sir Francis Mansel's second marriage is not clear, and the confusion in respect of her Christian name gives rise to some doubt upon this point; it has not, however, been found possible to clear it up, so the union of uncle and niece must be tentatively accepted as a fact.

The Stepney baronetcy became extinct in 1825. Sir John, fourth baronet, married, in 1653, the daughter and heir of Sir Anthony Vandyke, the famous painter; she was only twelve years of age.

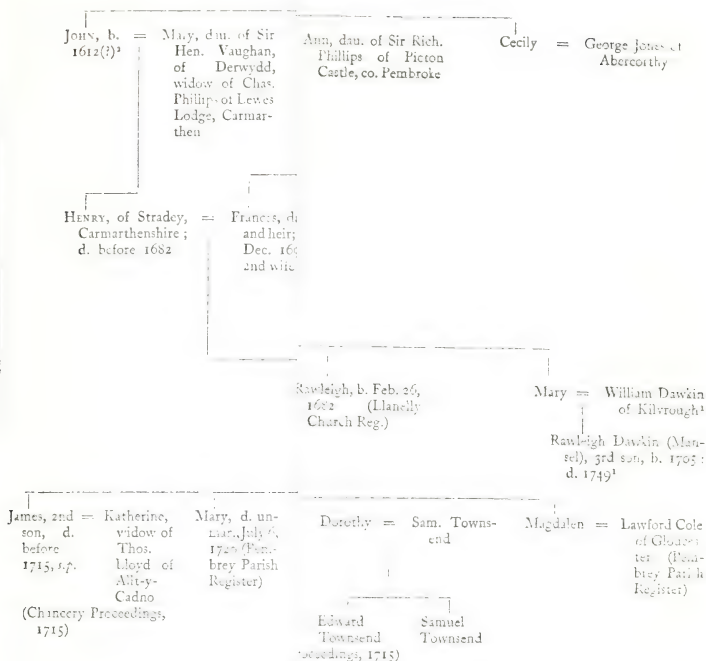
The baronetcy of Mansel of Trimsaren was created in the third generation from Sir Francis of Muddlescombe, in the person of Edward Mansel, Esquire, of Trimsaren, son of Henry Mansel of Stradey, son of John, son of Sir Francis by his second marriage.

Sir Edward of Trimsaren became possessed of the Trimsaren estate through his marriage with Dorothy, widow of Thomas (or Theophilus) Lloyd, and daughter of Philip Vaughan of Trimsaren; she became sole heir on the death of her brother, Edward Vaughan, and Edward Mansel is described as "of Trimsaren" in the patent of creation of the baronetcy, February 22, 1697.

The genealogy of the Mansels of Trimsaren is given in the following pedigree, which is probably correct, though there is one step which has been questioned, *viz.*, the parentage of Sir Edward Vaughan Mansel, the third baronet; this will be dealt with in due course.

¹ "The Laws of England," by the Earl of Halsbury. Vol. xvi., p. 283.

MANSELS, BARONETS C

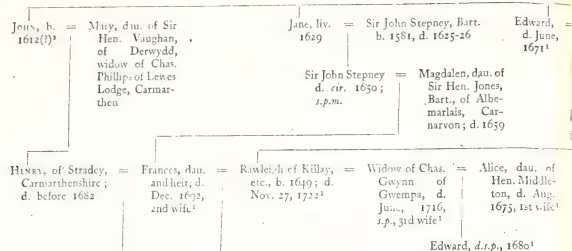


Carmarthenshire Notes, vol. iii., p. 25).

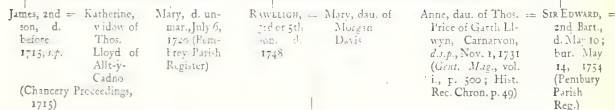
ed to have matriculated at Wodham College, June 13, 1627, and have been admitted Aug. 9, 1624—i.e., at twelve years of age. This is in this case the year of his birth would be 1602.

MANSELS, BARONETS OF TRIMSAREN

SIR FRANCIS MANSEL, 1st
Bart. of Muddlescombe
d. 1628 (admon. 1628)



SIR EDWARD MANSEL, =
1st Bart. of Trimsaren, created Feb. 22, 1697; d. Feb. 19, or Mar. 6, 1720



Bridget = Dan. Shewen (Llanelly Church Reg., 1738)

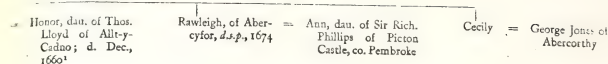
Margaretta Maria = Geo. Dawkin (Llanelly Church Reg., 1753)

Mary Anne, b. 1767; d. Jan. 18, 1808. (Will dated Feb. 5, 1807; proved Mar. 8, 1808)

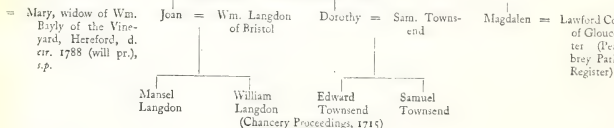
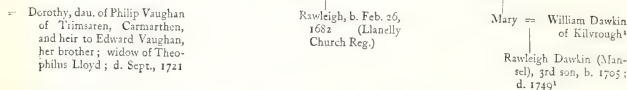
Edward Wm. Richard Shewen (Mansel), of Thistleboon; b. 1778; d. Oct. 22, 1806

(Mon. Inscr., Llanelly Church.)

Dorothy, dau. of Alban Stepany of Prendergast, co. Pembroke, 2nd wife, liv. 1629, and possibly 1662 (Cal. of Admons.)



FRANCIS, d. 1664



SIR EDWARD VAUGHAN, 3rd = Mary, dau. of Joseph Shewen of Swansea, d. 1801 (Gent. Mag., vol. lxxi, p. 88)

Bart., b. cir. 1730; d. Dec. 27, 1788 (Mon. Inscr., Pembrey Church)

SIR EDWARD JOSEPH SHEWEN MANSEL, 4th Bart., d. unmarried, April 6, 1798 (Gent. Mag., vol. lxxviii, p. 359)

¹ Monumental Inscriptions, Llanelandine Church (Carmarthenshire Notes, vol. iii, p. 25).

² In Foster's "Alumni Oxoniensis" John Mansel is stated to have matriculated at Wadham College, June 15, 1697, aged 15; in the register of admissions to Gray's Inn he is said to have been admitted Aug. 9, 1624—i.e., at twelve years of age. This appears very improbable; possibly 1627 is a misprint for 1617; in this case the year of his birth would be 1602.

There is a curious discrepancy concerning the date of the death of Sir Edward, second baronet, which appears to demand some investigation. In the "Complete Baronetage" it is given as "10 May or 4 Nov. 1754." There is a vagueness about this which at once attracts attention, and suggests a search for authorities; these are to be found in two contemporary publications.

In the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1754 (p. 243), appears the following: "13 May Sir Edward Mansel of Trimsaren, Bart." This is clear enough; but the announcement is falsified, or at least called in question, by another entry (p. 530): "7 Nov. Sir Edward Mansel, Bart., of Trimsaren, Carmarthenshire."

The *London Magazine* follows suit with the double announcement, giving the dates, however, as May 10 and November 4, and supplementing the later entry with the statement: "succeeded by his son, now Sir Edward Vaughan Mansel" (p. 524).

This double record, in two separate contemporary journals, with an interval of six months, and four different days of the month, is very remarkable; there is no death of a knight or baronet in another branch of the family at this time which could have occasioned any confusion of identity. Such entries in the two magazines alluded to are almost invariably accepted by genealogists as reliable evidence; references thereto are innumerable in obituaries and genealogies, and are rarely questioned; indeed, it is only reasonable that these contemporary records should be so accepted, just as similar entries in the *Times* are accepted in later years. And yet here is a man's death recorded twice, with absolute precision, at an interval of six months; and with the circumstantial statement appended to one of the later announcements, that he is succeeded by his son, Edward Vaughan Mansel.

Fortunately, the mystery is at least partially cleared up by an entry in the Parish Register of Pembrey, Carmarthenshire, as follows: "Sir Edward Mansel, Baronet, buried 14 May 1754."¹ It is scarcely possible to question this entry, and it must therefore be concluded that Sir Edward died in May, and not in November,

¹ Carmarthenshire Antiquarian Society. Vol. viii., p. 26. (Pembrey Parish Registers.)

1754; but the announcement at the later date in the two magazines remains a mystery.

Mr. R. G. Maunsell (p. 37) and Lieut. Mansel-Pleydell, with equal confidence place Sir Edward Vaughan Mansel as the son of Rawleigh; but, in view of the statements above alluded to, they should have been careful to cite authority for this.

Lieutenant Mansel-Pleydell gives Musgrave's obituary as his authority for the date of the death of Sir Edward, second baronet; had he followed up Musgrave's references, he would have lighted upon the anomaly of the two different records, which certainly should not be passed over without remark, and the statement that he was succeeded by his *son*.

Dame Mary Mansel, widow of Sir Edward, second baronet, made a will, March 4, 1787, and this might reasonably be expected to throw some light upon the matter, but it fails to do so. From her will it appears that she married as her third—or perhaps her second—husband one Barry St. Leger, a colonel in the army (late of the 34th Foot), and that when she executed the will she did not know whether or not he was living; so she left alternate terms, *viz.*, in case the colonel was dead, she left all her real and personal estate to her nephew Samuel Townsend, Esquire, major-general; in case he was living, she left £500 to Samuel Townsend, "which I have a right to charge on the Trimsaren estate under the marriage settlement made between me and the said Colonel St. Leger"—Samuel Townsend was sole executor. It appears that Colonel St. Leger survived the testatrix, for on November 8, 1788, administration is granted jointly to him and to Samuel Townsend, who was the son of Lady Mansel's sister-in-law, Dorothy Mansel, by her marriage with Samuel Townsend the elder. In the letter of administration Dame Mary Mansel is described as "formerly of Trimsaren in the county of Carmarthen, but late of the parish of St. George, Bloomsbury."

The will of Sir Edward Vaughan Mansel, third baronet, is equally uninformative in the matter of his parentage.

In Wotton's "Baronetage" no statement of his relationship to his predecessor in the title is ventured upon, though the book was written during his lifetime; in the "Complete Baronetage" he is

said to be "presumably son and heir by second marriage: but possibly nephew and heir, as son and heir of Rawleigh, a younger brother of the late Baronet."

Sir Edward Mansel, second baronet, as appears in the pedigree, was twice married, and there is a general agreement among the various chroniclers that he had no issue by either marriage; but there does not appear to be any absolute proof of this, though the will of dame Mary Mansel gives colour to it. Sir Edward appears to have died intestate.

The hypothesis put forward in the "Complete Baronetage," that Edward Vaughan Mansel was the son of Sir Edward by his second marriage, cannot be maintained in the face of a monumental inscription in Pembrey Parish Church: "In memory of Sir Edward Vaughan Mansel, Bart., of Stradey, who departed this life the 27th day of December, 1788, in the 58th year of his age."¹

The second marriage of Sir Edward, second baronet, is recorded in the *Gentleman's Magazine*: "3 Nov. 1740. Sir Edward Mansel, Bart., to Miss Bayly of the Vineyard, Hereford" (not "widow of --- Bayly Esq.," as in the pedigrees):² and on the same day, "Mr. Bayly to Miss Langdon, niece to Sir Edward Mansel"; this was the daughter of Sir Edward's sister, Joan, and Mr. Bayly was presumably either brother or brother-in-law to Sir Edward's bride.³

From these records it is obvious that Edward Vaughan Mansel, who must, from the monumental inscription, have been born about 1730, could not have been the son of Sir Edward by his second marriage in 1740.

Sir Edward's first wife, Ann Price, died, according to records in contemporary journals, at Hampstead, November 1, 1731; so it is possible that she may have been mother of Edward Vaughan Mansel; it is, however, extremely improbable, as Edward Vaughan's sisters were almost certainly his juniors.

It appears quite justifiable, therefore, to place Sir Edward

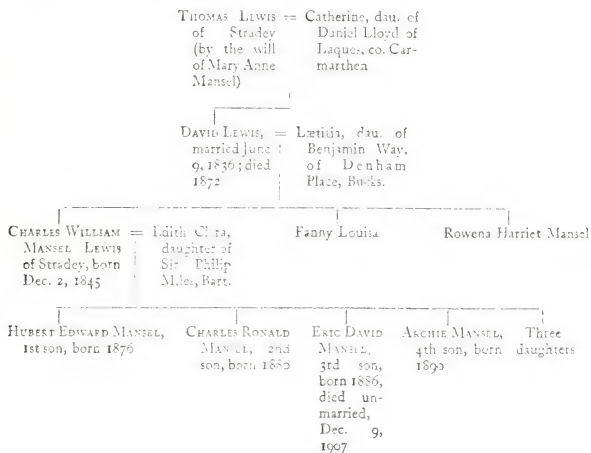
¹ Communicated by the courtesy of the Rev. D. A. Jenkins, vicar of Pembrey.

² Lieutenant Mansel-Pleydell states that this lady was otherwise known as "Lady Mary Macleenzie," but does not cite his authority; thus she is severally placed by this name, as Mrs. Bayly, widow, and as Miss Bayly, at the time of her marriage.

Vaughan Mansel in the pedigree as the son of Rawleigh Mansel, and nephew to Sir Edward, second baronet.

At the death of Sir Edward Joseph Shewen Mansel, fourth baronet, the title became extinct, and Mary Anne Mansel, who married Edward William Richard Shewen, surviving her brother, the last baronet, by nearly ten years, was left sole heir to Sir Edward Vaughan Mansel, third baronet.

Mary Anne Mansel, by her will, left the Stradey estate to Thomas Lewis, in whose family it still remains.



(These particulars are taken from Burke's "Landed Gentry," 1914; Charles William Mansel Lewis was then living. It will be noticed that he and all his sons have the prefix of *Mansel* before the surname.)

The Mansels of Trimsaren do not appear to have been prominent in public affairs; but they were somewhat addicted to litigation.

In January, 1715, Sir Edward, first baronet, preferred a very long indictment against the widow and trustees of his second son, James, deceased.¹ From this it appears that James, being very young at the time, desired to marry Katherine, widow of Thomas Lloyd of Allt-y-Cadno (probably son to Thomas Lloyd of Allt-y-Cadno, whose daughter Honor married Edward, son of Sir Francis Mansel of Muddlescombe). Apparently it was one of those cases of the infatuation of a youth for a woman considerably his senior, with the additional attraction in this instance of a very substantial income. James and Katherine kept their engagement secret, and were resolved to marry whether Sir Edward approved or not—James was presumably under age—but realising, no doubt, that it would make things more comfortable if they could obtain his consent, they enlisted the good offices of some friends and relatives as mediators. Sir Edward, however, altogether disapproved of the whole business, and refused his consent. Apparently, like many parents similarly situated, he deemed it ultimately more prudent to modify his opposition, seeing that James had got the bit between his teeth, and was determined to marry Katherine; so he consented to interview that lady at her own house. She was evidently a very wide-awake person, and had summoned her solicitor, Thomas Williams, to be present. Sir Edward, having visions of a quiet family arrangement, had not thought it necessary to bring a lawyer with him. The lady had it all her own way; Sir Edward consented to a form of settlement whereby Katherine was to retain after her marriage full and absolute control of all the real and personal effects of which she was then owner, as though she were a "single and unmarried" woman, except £200 to be settled upon her and James Mansel, Sir Edward to settle a like sum, the whole to be devoted to the purchase of lands; that after the expiration of the lease of Allt-y-Cadno, James and Katherine should have the use and enjoyment of the estate of Stradey, except the coal-mines, which Sir Edward was free to work.

This agreement was put into writing by Thomas Williams, with an additional clause that in case Sir Edward and Lady Mansel

¹ This James does not appear in all the pedigrees; he is vouched for, however, by the Chancery Proceedings.

objected to James and Katherine living at Stradey, the former should pay them £20 a year ; and was apparently duly executed.

James Mansel died intestate, because, it was alleged, Katherine would never allow anyone to come near him for the purpose of making a will ; she refused to pay his creditors, telling them that James had left no effects to meet his debts, etc.

Sir Edward agreed to contribute £200 towards payment of the debts, and to resign his claim on James's estate. Thomas Williams made a note of the terms in his pocket-book, promising to draw up the agreement in due course, which, however, he failed to do, perhaps acting upon a hint from Katherine, who was obviously what is termed a very "having" individual. Williams died, and Katherine then endeavoured to hold Sir Edward to his part of the agreement, while repudiating it on her own part as having been only a verbal undertaking. She asserts that Sir Edward and Lady Mansel pressed her to marry their son, as she had been left very well off by her late husband ; telling her that Sir Edward's estate would probably come to James (which appears somewhat disingenuous, seeing that Edward, the eldest son, was living, and ultimately survived James by many years) ; whereupon she was "induced to hearken to the said courtship," and at length—in 1711—married James.

Katherine further asserted that she had no effects of her late husband other than his clothes and his sword, worth about £5, and Sir Edward was welcome to these—though she paid a great deal more than this for James's funeral. A very glib young woman, this mistress Katherine !

However, she was not permitted to benefit by the verbal arrangement, and Sir Edward retained his £200, and whatever claims he had upon James's estate—which very possibly consisted only of his personal belongings, as alleged by Katherine, who had taken good care to retain a firm hold upon her own estate when she married.

In the year 1756 Lady Mansel, widow of Sir Edward, second baronet, commenced a suit in Chancery, to which response was made by defendants, to wit—Samuel Townsend, Dorothy Townsend, Edward Townsend, and Samuel Townsend the younger—that is to

say, Dorothy, daughter of Sir Edward, first baronet, together with her husband and her two sons.

This was a very long affair, and it is not very clear from the Chancery report in the Record Office what it was all about. The Townsend defendants make a long recital of certain obvious facts, and wind up by professing ignorance upon the legal points raised, and submitting themselves to the Court.

The suit dragged on apparently until December, 1759, when the following appeared in the *Gentleman's Magazine*: "The great cause brought by Lady Mansel, relict of Sir Edward Mansel, against the heir-at-law of that gentleman, for a satisfaction for her jointure, of which she had been evicted, was argued in the Court of Chancery before the Lord Keeper, who made a decree in her favour, and ordered her claims to be made good out of the great estate in Carmarthenshire, called the Vaughan estate, which is very considerable."

Sir Edward died intestate, and, as is very frequently the case, thereby caused trouble.

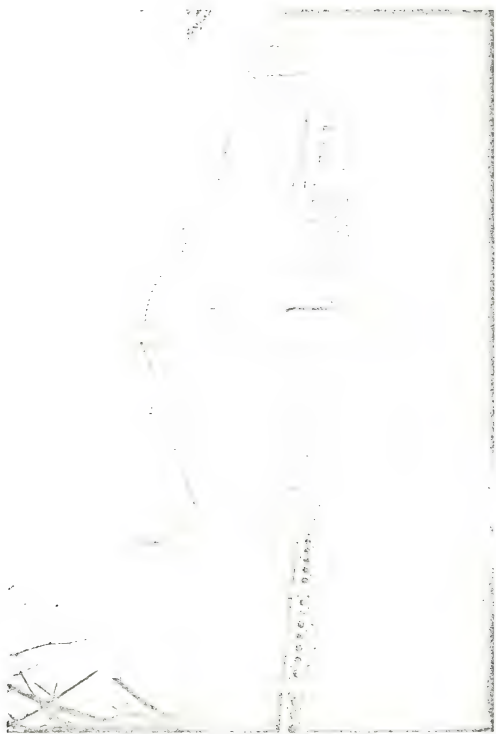
Failing direct male issue, his heir at law would be Edward Vaughan Mansel - indeed, he was heir at law in any case, whether he was, as alleged in some quarters, Sir Edward's son, or his nephew, son of Rawleigh Mansel, who died six years previously. Rawleigh also, apparently, died intestate; no will is to be found, back to ten years before his death, nor is there any grant of administration of his estate.

However, Lady Mansel obtained a verdict, as recorded in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, and lived for nearly thirty years afterwards.

There had previously been a suit by Rawleigh Mansel against Sir Edward; the whole family appear to have conspired to keep the Court of Chancery busy.

In the year 1693 there were several transactions concerning the Manor or Lordship of Henlys, near Llandewy, Glamorgan, in which Edward Mansel of Trimsaren was intimately concerned.

¹ There is, no doubt, much further detail of this suit, but the Chancery Proceedings in the Record Office, by reason of the reduction of the staff during the war, are so difficult of access that the further investigation of the matter does not appear to be of sufficient importance to compensate for the trouble and delay.



SKETCH OF SKETCH, GLAMORGANSHIRE.

The Property of MANSIEU-MANSEL, who died in 1776.



JAMES TEMPLE MANSSEL,
ELDEST SON OF MANSFIELD MANSSEL.

From these articles it appears that Edward Mansel, senior, late of Henlys, and Edward Mansel, junior, his son, of Swansea, were in financial difficulties, and compelled to mortgage their estates.

The parentage of this Edward Mansel of Henlys is not very clear.

Lieutenant Mansel-Pleydell places him as the son of Thomas, son of Philip of Swansea, and grandson of Sir Edward of Margam. This, however, is by no means certain: it has already been demonstrated in a previous chapter that there was some irregularity about the period of this Thomas's birth,¹ and the writer, as usual, produces no evidence as to this step, beyond the somewhat vague reference, "Penrice MSS." He is compelled to admit that there is some vagueness about another step in the pedigree, *viz.*, the parentage of William Wogan Mansel; and the obscurity is certainly not absent in the case of Thomas, "probably" grandfather of William Wogan—but who was the "probable" father of William Wogan Mansel not even a conjecture is hazarded. The omission indicates a large measure of uncertainty as to these several links.

These two Thomas Mansels, the alleged son of Philip of Swansea, and his son, have already been subjected to some scrutiny in a previous chapter. Lieutenant Mansel-Pleydell says that Thomas, son of Robert, and grandson of the second Thomas mentioned above was "possibly the Thomas Mansel who, in 1715, was leased Penrice Farm, and was the father of Thomas Mansel, baptised at Penrice in 1715." It is most probable, however, that these two were issue of the irregular connection of Lord Mansel with Catherine Thomas, before alluded to.

However, there is no doubt that there was one Edward Mansel of Hentlies (or Henlys) living in the year 1658, and that he, on June 5 in that year, sold the manor and lordship of Henlys to Edward Mansel, Esq., of Oxwich, for £300, and an annuity of £50.²

This Edward Mansel of Oxwich, Esquire, is also somewhat of a puzzle; in 1658 Sir Edward, fourth baronet, held the title, and

¹ See *ante*, p. 37.

² Penrice and Margam MSS., Series III, pt. iii, p. 160.

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would not, of course, be alluded to as "Esquire"; also, in a subsequent deed, his wife, Anne, is mentioned. Possibly some clue may here be found to an alleged son, Edward, of Sir Thomas, first baronet of Margam, upon the strength of whose existence a claim for the baronetcy was made by William Washington Mansell, about 1850; this will be considered later.

In the year 1685 there are some bonds and acquittances by Edward, son and heir of Edward Mansel of Henlys;¹ and on October 13, 1693, there is an indenture between Edward Mansel, senior, late of Henlys, and Edward Mansel, junior, of Swansea, his son; Thomas Mansel, of Penrice Castle; Marmaduke Gibbs of Gray's Inn, and Edward Mansel of Trimsaren, concerning the mortgaging and settling of the Manor or Lordship of Henlys.² On the same day Edward Mansel of Trimsaren covenants to raise £1,575, of which £513 2s. is to be applied in discharge of a mortgage made to Thomas Mansel by Edward Mansel, senior, of Henlys, etc., in consideration of the transfer of the said mortgage to Edward Mansel of Trimsaren.³

In these and subsequent deeds of the same nature there is abundant evidence that Edward Mansel of Henlys and his son and heir were in monetary difficulties, and that Edward of Trimsaren—afterwards first baronet—acquired mortgages on their estates.

Edward Mansel, senior, of Henlys, died in 1695, and left a will, dated February 5 in that year, which contains some information concerning his son's marriage, etc.

It appears from this document that Edward Mansel, junior, married Margaret, daughter of Richard Ducke, or Duck. Edward Mansel, senior, leaves all his estate to his son Edward, remainder to his sons by his wife, Margaret, in seniority. Testator mentions his wife, Anne; Lieutenant Mansel-Pleydell says she was daughter of Sir Theobald Gorges, and refers to "will of Colonel Edward Mansel"; but this information is not contained in the will. Testator also mentions his brother, Thomas Mansel, which lends some colour to

¹ Penrice and Margam MSS., Series iv., p. 205.

² *Ibid.*, pp. 232, 233.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 205.



MANSEL DARWIN MANSEL,
of LATHBURY PARK, NEWPORT PAGNELL.



PORTRAIT OF LOUIS N. HILL, EXAMINEE
—Edwin Beaumont, Esq., of the Corps
of Col. Mansel Darwin Mansel.



ORDER OF FLEUR-DE-LIS ACCOMPANYING SNUFFBOX.



GOLDEN BOX
PRESENTED TO MANSEL DAWKIN MANSEL
BY LOUIS XVIII OF FRANCE.

Lieutenant Mansel-Pleydell's introduction of Thomas of Penrice as a son of Philip of Swansea; after this brother, "remainder to Thomas Mansel of Margam Esq., and heirs male of body" (afterwards fifth baronet and first baron of Margam); to Thomas Mansel of Briton Ferry (grandson of Bussy Mansel) and heirs male; remainder to Edward Mansel, Esq. of Trimsaren, etc.

However, the upshot of all this business was, that in 1699 Mrs. Mansel, widow of Edward, junior, of Henlys, petitioned Parliament for a special settlement of her affairs. In a letter to Mr. Thomas Drew—probably a lawyer—she states that "Mr. Mansel's father" left a great incumbrance on the estate; so she was Margaret Duck, wife of Edward Mansel, junior. There was not, she says, sufficient provision in his settlement for discharging the debt.

"She therefore, to prevent the ruin of the estate, joins to have an act passed for the sale or mortgage of part of the estate to pay off the debt and raise a portion of £2,000 for her younger child or children, with remainder on herself and her son."

She tells Mr. Drew that she has written to her "sister Duck" to send him the deed of settlement; Mr. Thomas Mansel, son of Sir Edward Mansel of Margam, will act with Mr. Drew.

Mrs. Mansel gained her ends; the Bill was sent up from the Commons March 14, 1699 (1700), and received the royal assent April 11 following.¹

The connection of the Mansels of Trimsaren with the family of Dawkin, and the estate of Lathbury in Bucks, is a matter of considerable interest, which must be dealt with at some length.

Rawleigh Mansel, either second or third son of Edward Mansel (second son of Sir Francis of Muddlescombe), had a daughter Mary, probably by his second marriage with Frances, daughter and heir of Sir John Stepney, and widow of Henry Mansel of Stradey. It appears most probable that this Mary was the issue of Rawleigh Mansel's second marriage, but it has not been found possible to prove this absolutely. Rawleigh's first wife died in 1675; the year

¹ Hist. MSS. Com. House of Lords MSS., vol. iv., p. 131. The act was entitled "An Act to enable Edward Mansel Esquire to Mortgage or sell," &c.; so it would appear that Edward Mansel was then living, and that the petition, though presented by his wife, was actually granted to him.

of the death of Henry Mansel of Stradey, first husband of Frances Stepney, is not certain.

There is, however, an entry in the register of Llanelly Church, Carmarthenshire, which throws some light upon the matter: "Anno Dom. 168½. Raw: Mansel filius Rawleigh Mansel Armigeri latus fuit Vicessimio sexto die Feb. et Baptizatus fuit Vicessimio die Martii Anno Dom. prodiit."¹

A glance at the pedigree will demonstrate that this son Rawleigh was born of the second marriage, and consequently that Henry Mansel of Stradey must have died before 1682; it is probable that he died considerably earlier than this, and that Mary was the elder of the two.²

This Mary, daughter of Rawleigh Mansel, married William Dawkin, Esquire, of Kilyrough, Glamorganshire.

There is some misapprehension regarding this marriage on the part of more than one family chronicler.

In one instance Mary is described as second daughter and third child of Rawleigh Mansel, and "sister of Sir Edward Vaughan Mansel, third Baronet of Trimsaran"; born 1676, married William Dawkin July 11, 1697. These statements appear in some genealogical notes supplied by a member of the Mansel family.

Mr. R. G. Maunsell has the following: "Margaretta Maria Mansel, daughter of Rawleigh Mansel, and sister of Sir Edward Vaughan Mansel, third Baronet, married about 1715, William Dawkin, of Killyrough, Carmarthenshire."

Here is a wild discrepancy in the matter of the date of the marriage, while the two authorities agree in the assertion that Mary was sister to Sir Edward Vaughan Mansel, third baronet. The said Sir Edward died in 1788, so if this Mary was born in 1676, one hundred and twelve years before his death, it is scarcely probable that she was his sister.

On the other hand, the chronicle first quoted above is very possibly correct as to Mary's marriage, though altogether wrong in

¹ "History of Llanelly Church," by Arthur Mee; the Registers, p. 2.

² Henry Mansel's wills stated by Lieutenant Mansel-Pleydell to have been dated 1673; it is not, however, to be found in the Calendar of Wills at Somerset House, from that year to 1684.

respect of her relationship to Sir Edward Vaughan Mansel. The year of her birth, as here stated, gives rise to some further question. Rawleigh Mansel's first wife died in August, 1675; if Mary was born in the following year the second marriage must have ensued with very unusual haste—or else she was a posthumous child of the first marriage. Unfortunately, as is so frequently the case in these family records, there is an entire absence of authority for the various statements, which are supposed apparently to be blindly accepted upon the *ipse dixit* of the writer—who, in this instance, might very easily have avoided the somewhat ridiculous *faux pas* of placing Mary as Sir Edward Vaughan Mansel's sister; as will be demonstrated in due course.

Mr. R. G. Maunsell commits the same blunder, and names the lady *Maria Margareta* Mansel. Sir Edward Vaughan Mansel had a sister Maria Margareta, or Margareta Maria whose marriage with one George Dawkin is recorded in the Llanelly Church Register, many years later—to wit, on October 9, 1763; Sir Edward, in his will, alludes to his "sisters Bridget Shewen and Margareta Maria Dawkin"; and on January 8, 1758, the marriage of Daniel Shewen, widower, and Bridget Mansel, spinster, is registered.¹

This later Dawkin-Mansel marriage has clearly led Mr. R. G. Maunsell into a trap; probably, or indeed certainly, he had not come across the valuable information contained in "Carmarthenshire Notes," from which many of the dates inserted in the pedigree have been taken. In elucidation of the matter at issue it will be convenient to transcribe the "notes" *verbatim*.

MANSEL INSCRIPTIONS AT LLANGENDEIRNE CHURCH.

No. 1 (Tablet)

"Interr'd here Edwd. Mansel Esq., son of Sir Fra. Mansel, of Muddlescombe, Bart., in June, 1671; Honor his wife, daughter of Tho. Lloyd of Allt-y-Cadno, Esqr., in Decr. 1660; and Rawleigh Mansel Esqr., their son, in Decr. 1722. In the next grave their son Francis, in 1664; Alice, the said Rawleigh's first wife, daughter of Henry Middleton Esqr., in Aug. 1675; Edward, their son, in June

¹ "History of Llanelly Church," the Register, p. 21. Daniel Shewen's first wife was the youngest daughter of Robert Rydd, Mayor of the Temple; she died June 7, 1737, and he married Bridget Mansel seven months later. (*Ibid.*, p. lix.)

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1680; and Frances his second wife, sole daughter and heir of Sir John Stepney, Bart., in Decr. 1692. And in this chancel, Mary, his 3d wife, Relict of Cha. Gwynn, of Gwempa, Esqr., in June 1716.

"The said Rawleigh Mansel dy'd ye 27th of Nov., 1722, Anno Aetat. 72, having devised his estate to his grandson, Rawleigh, 3rd son of William Dawkin, Esqr., and Mary his wife, by whom this monument was erected. He assuming the name of Mansel."

No. 2 (Tablet)

"Be this Inscription sacred to truth and to the Character of Rawleigh Dawkin Mansel Esq., who died under the agonizing pains of the Gout in the 44th year of his age, 1749. This gentleman was conspicuous for his great talents, and was adorned with many amiable qualities; had a dignity in his manner and countenance peculiarly his own, was endowed with a heart full of benevolence, and ornamented (with ?) every social virtue which attracted a most general esteem. In justice to the memory of so valuable a man and the kindest of husbands, his afflicted widow as the last token of her regard has caused this monument to be erected near the vault which she made for the repository of his Remains within this Chancel.

"His only daughter, Anna Maria Mansel, who died the 30th March, 1752, aged 14 years, is also interred in the same vault."

No. 3 (on Church floor)

"In this vault lies interred Montacute Brown Mansel" (two lines defaced—roughly cut out with a chisel) "son of Mansel Mansel Esq., by Mary his wife, daughter of John Morris Esq., of the county of Middlesex, died May 28, 1767, aged six years and three months and seven days. He was all his affectionate parents could have wished him to be.

"Here also lies interred Mansel Mansel, of New Hall, in the county of Glamorgan, Esq., who departed this life the 29th day of August, 1767, aged fifty-six years."

It is at once apparent that No. 1 Tablet places beyond question the identity of Rawleigh Mansel, whose daughter Mary married William Dawkin: he was the son of Edward Mansel, and grandson of Sir Francis, first baronet of Muddlescombe; his daughter obviously could not have been the sister of Sir Edward Vaughan Mansel, third baronet of Trimsaran. This tablet, the details upon which must be accepted as good evidence, also furnishes the dates of



CHARLES GRENVILLE MANSEL, of H. E. L. Co.'s Service.



ANNA MARY O'BRYAN,
WIFE OF CHARLES GREENVILLE MANSEL, I.R.B. Co.'s Service.

the decease of several members of the family, and these have been duly inserted in the Trimsaren pedigree.

There are some discrepancies in the dates among various authorities. Lieutenant Mansel-Pleydell gives the date of the death of Sir Edward, first baronet of Trimsaren, February 29, 1720; in the "Complete Baronetage" it is given February 19; while in the Pembrey Parish Register occurs the following: "Edwardus Mansel, Baronettus (mei amantissimus) obiit Londini, sexto die Martij, et sepultus Vigesimo nono die ejusdem mensis, 1720, apud ecclesiam parochialem de Pembrey."¹

A much more remarkable entry appears in this Register twenty years later.

The death of Ann, first wife of Sir Edward Mansel, second baronet of Trimsaren, is recorded in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, and also in the Historical Register Chronicle, as having occurred at Hampstead, November 1, 1731;² and Sir Edward's second marriage is also entered in the *Gentleman's Magazine* as having taken place November 3, 1740, nine years after the death of his first wife.

In the Pembrey Parish Register is the following (translated from the original Latin): "Ann, wife of Sir Edward Mansel, Baronet, of Trimsaren, buried the 6th day of September, 1740."³

This is somewhat startling at first sight; there is, however, a very feasible explanation of the discrepancy. It appears probable that Sir Edward, two months before his second marriage, caused the remains of his first wife to be removed from London, where she died, to Wales, and deposited in Pembrey Church. The interment being entered in this bald fashion, without explanation, becomes a source of possible error, and it is therefore considered advisable to notice it; there does not seem to be any other way of accounting for the entry.

Both Mr. R. G. Maunsell and Lieutenant Mansel-Pleydell place the marriage of Maria Margarett, daughter of Rawleigh Mansel, and niece of Sir Edward, second baronet, with one Dawkin.

¹ "Carmarthenshire Antiquarian Society." Proceedings. Vol. viii., p. 26. "Died in London 6 March, and buried in the parish church at Pembrey 29 March, 1720." He was "greatly beloved" by the parson, presumably.

² *Gent. Mag.* Vol. i., p. 500. Hist. Reg. Chron., 1731; p. 49.

³ "Carmarthenshire Antiquarian Society." Proceedings. Vol. viii., p. 26.

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as having occurred "about 1715." Mr. Maunsell has *William*, and Lieutenant Mansel-Pleydell *George Dawkin*; no authority is given in either case.

To set off against this statement there is the entry, already noticed, of the marriage of Maria Margarett^a Mansel with George Dawkin in 1763. It is extremely improbable that any such marriage took place in 1715. Lieutenant Mansel-Pleydell's perfectly correct statement, that Sir Edward Vaughan Mansel was fifty-eight years of age when he died in 1788, is absolutely against it. He places Margarett^a Maria as fourth child of Rawleigh Mansel, while Edward Vaughan, the eldest, must, according to the data above quoted, have been born in 1730. It does not appear whence this alleged marriage of 1715 is derived, but the evidence for that in 1763—which would fit in with Margarett^a Maria's probable age, as fourth child—is straight and conclusive. It is remarkable that Lieutenant Mansel-Pleydell should have overlooked the very broad anachronism involved in the marriage, in 1715, of a younger sister of Sir Edward Vaughan Mansel, who was born, according to the writer's own testimony, in 1730.

The date of the marriage of Mary Mansel with William Dawkin has been given in one account, as above mentioned, July 11, 1697. No authority is cited for this statement; very possibly the record of the marriage is to be found in the register of some church in Carmarthenshire, or at least in some part of Wales, but it cannot readily be verified.

There is, however, no inherent improbability in this date, except that Mary must have been very young; as has been pointed out, it is extremely improbable that she was born, as alleged, in 1676, seeing that she is stated by the same writer to be the issue of Rawleigh Mansel's second marriage—as, indeed, she almost certainly was. She may have been born about 1680, if Rawleigh Mansel's marriage with Frances followed quickly upon the death of her first husband, Henry Mansel.

William Dawkin¹ and Mary Mansel had five sons, of whom

¹ The name is thus spelled in the monumental inscriptions, but Lieutenant Mansel-Pleydell spells it *Dawkins*, erroneously, it would appear.

Rawleigh, the third, receives special mention on the tablet in Llangendeirne church. It is there stated that his grandfather, Rawleigh Mansel, devised his estates to him in his will, and this statement is repeated in every account of this branch of the family. It may be accepted as fact, on the strength of the inscription, but Rawleigh's will is not to be found in the Calendar at Somerset House between 1711 and 1726; he died 1722.

This Rawleigh Dawkin, upon inheriting his grandfather's estate, assumed the name of Mansel; he was only seventeen when his grandfather died, and he lived to the age of forty-four, as recorded upon the tablet in Llangendeirne church; his only child, Maria, died three years after her father, in 1752, at the age of fourteen.

The Dawkins were of ancient descent, deriving from Sir William Langton, or rather from a natural son of his, who married the daughter of Dawkin "the Smith"—probably *temp.* Edward II.; their son took the surname of Langton, but subsequent generations were known as Dawkin (or Dawkins).

The Langtons possessed, among other estates, the Castle of Kilvrock, Glamorgan-shire, and near the site of this castle one Rowland Dawkin, in 1585, built Kilvrough (or Cilvrough) House.

Colonel Rowland Dawkin of Kilvrough was Governor of Carmarthen under Cromwell; his third son, Richard, is stated to have married a daughter of Henry Mansel of Stradey (father of Edward, the first baronet of Trimsaren).¹

Colonel (afterwards Major-General) Dawkin was grandfather to William Dawkin of Kilvrough, who married Mary Mansel.

The Dawkin-Mansel pedigree is here given, as deduced from notes by Colonel Charles Grenville-Mansel and Lieutenant Mansel-Pleydell, verified as far as has been found possible by reference to contemporary magazines, monumental inscriptions, etc. Both of these family chroniclers have made somewhat inexcusable blunders in respect of certain marriages and relationships, as has already been pointed out; neither of them gives any precise reference for his confident assertions. "Swansea Monuments," or "Carmarthenshire Monuments" are useless as references; the inscription may be in

¹ "Limbus Patrum Morgania," by G. T. Clark; p. 483.

Rowland, 1st son, b. 1702; d. un- married, 1761	William, 2nd son, b. 1705, d. 1755	=	Ann (or Jane), dau. of John Williams of Carmarthen. (Mon. inscrip., St. Peter's church, Carmarthen)	Richard, 4th son b. 1709, <i>d.s.p.</i>	Mary Alice Priscilla	Elizabeth Ann
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William = Charity, dau. of Sir
Rich. Mansel, 8th
Baronet of Mud-
descombe

Mary = Marquis de
Choiseul

d. of William
Bedford Row,
at Clap-
1799)

dau. of -- Belly- perary	Jane, dau. of John Bell	=	George Barclay, 2nd son, <i>d.s.p.</i> , 1809
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Mary Eliza- beth	=	Rev. Ant. Benn	Kate, d. un- married	May, wid. of -- Salter, Esq. (2nd wife), <i>d.s.p.</i> Jan. 9, 1902	Frederick, son of S. Pitman of Oulton Hall, Norfolk	=	Fanny Maria
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Charles A. Benn, of Moor Park, near Kingston, Herefordshire	Albert Benn	=	Violet
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Denzil

DAWKIN-MANSEL PEDIGREE

WILLIAM DAWKIN of Kilkrough, b. 1668 = Mary, dau. of Rawleigh Mansel of Killay, etc., b. *cir.* 1680 (?) ; d. Mar. 29, 1726

Rowland, 1st son, b. 1702; d. unmarried, 1761
William, 2nd son, b. 1703, d. 1755
Elizabeth, dau. of Capt. Lobb
Ann Hudson, b. 1716; d. Nov. 20, 1752
MANSEL, 5th son, b. Oct. 18, 1711; d. Aug. 29, 1737 (assumed name of Mansel in 1749)

William = Charity, dau. of Sir Rich. Mansel, 8th Baronet of Muddlescombe
Mary = Marquis de Choiseul

RAWLEIGH MANSEL = Martha, dau. of — Sprole
Ann, b. 1751, d. 1768

William, 2nd son, Captain R.N., b. 1767; d. Feb. 17, 1809
Rowland, 3rd son, d. Nov. 17, 1769
Rawleigh, 4th son, d. June 16, 1775

James Temple, 1st son = Mabel, dau. of Michael Burke of Ballydugan

Mary Elizabeth = Rev. Ant. Benn
Kate, d. unmarried
Julia = Alfred, son of Fred Glover, Judge of High Court, Calcutta; of Middle Court, Hantsport Court
Charles Grenville, 1st son, colonel in Indian Army. = Gwendolen, dau. of Jas. Polson, Esq., of Kensington, London
Charles A. Benn, of Moor Park, near Kingston, Herefordshire
Albert Benn

Mary, dau. of Robt. Morris, Barrister, of London
Rawleigh, 3rd son, b. 1705; d. 1749 (assumed name of Mansel in 1722)
Ann (or Jane), dau. of John Williams of Carmarthen. (Mon. inscrip., St. Peter's church, Carmarthen)
Richard, 4th son b. 1709, *d.s.p.*
Mary Alice Priscilla
Elizabeth Ann

Montacute Browne Mansel, b. Feb. 21, 1761; d. May 28, 1767. (Mon. inscrip., Llangendafne church)

MANSEL DAWKIN MANSEL, 1st son (became possessed of the Manor of Lathbury, near Chicheley, Bucks, under the will of Miss Jane Syme), b. 1763; d. Aug. 11, 1823
Elizabeth, dau. of William Browne of Bedford Row, London (mar. at Clapham, July 1, 1799)

CHARLES GREENVILLE, 3rd son (a distinguished official in Indian Civil Service), d. 1886
Anna Mary, dau. of — O'Ryan of Ballyglass, co. Tipperary
Jane, dau. of John Bell
George Barclay, 2nd son, *d.s.p.*, 1869

Mary, dau. of General Grant (1st wife) = WILLIAM JAMES, 2nd son; Lt.-Colonel, 7th Bengal Infantry.
May, wid. of — Salter, Esq. (2nd wife), *d.s.p.* Jan. 9, 1902
Frederick, son of S. Pitman of Oulton Hall, Norfolk
Fanny Maria
William, d. unmarried, Mar. 31, 1909
G. C. Darwall, Royal Canadian Regiment = Violet
Denzil

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any one of a dozen churches. If it has been found, as is so frequently the case, in a local book of reference, the title and full name of the author should be given, with chapter and page. It appears, however, to be useless to expect such reasonable precision, and the pedigree is not guaranteed, except in respect of such steps as are vouched for by detailed particulars, the result of independent investigation.

One of the chief points of interest in this pedigree is the acquisition by Mansel Dawkin Mansel of the manor and estate of Lathbury, in the county of Buckinghamshire.

Lathbury (or Lateberie) receives mention in Domesday, and Lipscomb, in his "History of Buckinghamshire," traces its devolution through a number of families. It is not necessary, however, to go into these early records; the estate was apparently purchased in the sixteenth century by one Anthony Cave, of Chicheley, who died in 1558, having also acquired other lands there of the family of Ardres;¹ the said Anthony left three daughters, by whom, or by their heirs, the estate was sold, about 1599, to the family of Andrewes, in the person of Sir William Andrewes. A descendant of Sir William, viz., Henry Andrewes, who died in 1744, left one son, who died in infancy, and five daughters, one of whom, Jane, married the Rev. W. Symes, and had a daughter, Jane; another, Margaret, married Captain Dalway, of Carrickfergus.

Eventually the estate came into the possession of Jane Symes, daughter of the Rev. W. Symes aforesaid; she died in 1799, leaving a somewhat remarkable will, which is given *in extenso* by Lipscomb.

After making provision for the clearing off of sundry mortgages, etc., she devises the whole of her real and personal estate "unto my cousin Margaret Dalway, of Newport, in the county of Bucks, spinster, and to my friend, Mansel Dawkin Mansel, of Lathbury aforesaid Esquire . . . to hold the same, with the appurtenances, unto them the said Margaret Dalway and Mansel Dawkin

¹ It will be recollected that Richard de Ardres married one of the daughters and co-heirs of William de Alnro, and that another daughter is said to have married Sir Robert Maunsell, the Crusader, in the twelfth century. (See vol. I., p. 53.)

Mansel, and their assigns, for and during the term of their natural lives and the life of the survivor of them ; and from and after the decease of the said Margaret Dalway and Mansel Dawkin Mansel, and the survivor of them, I give, devise, and bequeath all and every my said estates, both real and personal, unto Elizabeth Brown, daughter of William Brown of Bedford Row of the city of London Esq. and her assigns, for and during the term of her natural life, in case she shall hereafter marry the said Mansel Dawkin Mansel, but not otherwise," etc.

This was all very pleasant for Margaret Dalway and Mansel Dawkin Mansel and Elizabeth Brown, provided the marriage came off. Miss Symes seems to have placed Elizabeth Brown in a somewhat delicate position ; unless Mansel came forward she would be forced, if she were to profit by the will, to take the initiative.

This very agreeable arrangement was, however, followed by sundry stipulations which were to come into force after the death of the last of the three principal legatees ; the mansion at Lathbury was to be converted into an orphanage for boys and girls from two years old, to be sent on, when of sufficient age, to St. Paul's Charity School in London. The most complete and elaborate provision is made for superintendence, maintenance, insurance, etc. The whole of the available funds of the Lathbury estate are to be used for these purposes, and none of her own family, or that of the late Mr. Perriam of Lathbury, are to receive any benefit from this charity ; any further funds which may be available from all the estates are to be used in the purchase of the advowson of a living, to be given to Christchurch College, Oxford, in exchange for the advowson of the living of Lathbury. Henry Stebbing, Mansel Dawkin Mansel, and Margaret Dalway are named executors ; the will is dated April 18, 1799, and is witnessed by John Dore, A. H. Hardy, and Wm. Lucas.

The provisions of Jane Symes' will apparently became known immediately to her nearest relatives ; whether she, scorning concealment, published abroad her intentions, or whether the trustees or witnesses were unduly talkative, cannot now be determined, but the result of the publication of the terms is very much in evidence.

Three days after she signed her will, viz., on April 21, Jane

Symes found it advisable to add a codicil to the following effect :
 ' Whereas I am aware that my heir-at-law, or some other person, may endeavour to frustrate my charitable intentions, by attempting to set aside and render of no effect my bequest to charitable uses, and that suits of law may be commenced and prosecuted to that end ; now I do, by this writing, which I declare to be a Codicil to my said will . . . revoke and utterly make void all and every gift, devise or bequest of the residue of my real and personal estates, furniture, and effects to charitable uses, in case I shall not live twelve months from the date of my said will ; and I do hereby give, devise and bequeath all the residue and remainder of my said real and personal estates, furniture chattels and effects, whatsoever and wheresoever, unto Margaret Dalway and Mansel Dawkin Mansel, their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, for ever," etc.¹

So the orphans were left out in the cold ; and Mansel Dawkin Mansel, as will be seen in the pedigree, duly married Elizabeth Brown, by whom he had several children.

Lathbury was a fine estate. Lipscomb says : " The manor now (1847) comprehends the greater part of the parish, and extends over more than a thousand acres of land . . . the mansion, which was rebuilt at the beginning of this century, is situated a little south-west of the Parish Church, fronting the northern part of the town of Newport Pagnell, between which and the house, the River Ouse flows in a fine stream, and affords a very pleasing object from the windows . . . the estate produced, in 1824, an annual rent of £1,350, subject to the land-tax." ²

Assuming possession of this estate in 1799, Mansel Dawkin Mansel immediately proceeded to put it in order. He rebuilt the house, lived there until his death and became a person of considerable consequence in the county, of which he was successively high sheriff and deputy lieutenant ; he held a commission in the Buckinghamshire Gentlemen and Yeomanry, and was eventually colonel of that corps.

¹ "History of Buckinghamshire," by Geo. Lipscomb. Vol. iv., pp. 199, 200.

² *Ibid.*, pp. 196, 202.

When Louis XVIII. of France, in the course of his wanderings and vicissitudes of fortune, took refuge in England, Mansel was Commissioner of the French Emigration Committee appointed to look after Louis and his staff and the French emigrants.

The French king resided first—1807—at Gosfield, in Essex, and subsequently—1809—at Hartwell in Buckinghamshire, which lies some two or three-and-twenty miles south from Lathbury, until about 1814, when he returned to France.

During the period of his residence in Buckinghamshire, Louis was apparently in frequent contact with Mansel, probably in the official capacity of the latter as well as in friendly intercourse. Louis was a hard-headed, practical man, with a keen eye to his own interests, which he was sufficiently wide awake to realise would best be served by urbanity towards those with whom his lot was thrown; and Mansel, in the discharge of his official duties, appears to have behaved tactfully and wisely, so that a cordial feeling prevailed between the two, which was emphasised by the gift of a gold snuff-box, with the king's portrait painted on the lid, encircled with diamonds, and an inscription inside, and the order of the *Fleur-de-Lys*, with white satin ribbon.

Accompanying this gift was a handsome letter written on behalf of the king by Ludin d'Auspatre; and later another, evidently a rejoinder to a letter of Mansel's. These two letters are here transcribed, and an illustration of the snuff-box, with the royal inscription, is given:¹ it is now (1917) in the possession of Colonel Charles Grenville Mansel, of Bentley, Hants.

" Aux Tuilleries,

" 27 Aout, 1816.

" MONSIEUR,

" Je suis chargé par mon Auguste Souverain S. M. T. C.² de l'agréable soin de vous faire parvenir de sa part une boîte avec son portrait, comme un témoignage de sa parfaite estime et de sa sensibilité pour tous les services que vous n'avez cessé de rendre à

¹ It will be noted that the two letters are written in August, 1816, and September 1819, two and five years after Louis (May 2, 1814) entered Paris, on the restoration of the Bourbons; so his recognition of Mansel's services, if cordial, was somewhat tardy.

² Sa Majesté Très Chrétien.

ses fidèles sujets, retirés en Angleterre pendant les malheurs de leur patrie. Cette occupation généreuse qui vous avait fait consacrer tant de moments à l'adoucissement de leur peine est restée gravée dans la mémoire de tous, et c'est leur reconnaissance donc S. M. me charge de vous faire parvenir le gage en y joignant en son nom l'assurance de ses sentiments personnels. J'ai l'honneur, avec une véritable considération, d'être, Monsieur, votre très humble, très obéissant Serviteur,

"LUDIN D'AUSPATRE."

"Paris,
"21 Sept. 1819.

"MON CHER MONSIEUR MANSEL,

"J'ai reçu la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'amitié de m'écrire, et je n'est pas manqué d'entretenir le Roi. Sa Majesté m'a expressément chargé de vous témoigner de nouveau sa gratitude pour tous les soins que vous êtes donné dans la distribution des secours dont vous avez dirigé si loyalement l'emploi à ses infortunés sujets.

"Le bonheur que j'ai eu d'en être témoin pendant tout d'années m'a pénétré pour vous de la plus haute estime, et si ma faible voix pouvait se joindre à celle de mon Auguste Souverain, je vous prierais d'en agréer les assurances.

"Si Sa Majesté était dans l'usage d'écrire ses lettres *privées*, elle aurait saisi avec plaisir cette occasion de vous mander elle-même ce qu'elle-même me charge de vous communiquer ici. J'ai l'honneur d'être,

"Mon cher Monsieur Mansel,

"Votre très humble et obéissant Serviteur,

"LUDIN D'AUSPATRE."

Colonel Mansel died suddenly, August 11, 1823, in the sixtieth year of his age, and his wife died a fortnight later.

Mansel Dawkin Mansel left three sons, the youngest of whom, Charles Grenville, rose to a position of considerable importance in India.

Born in 1806, he obtained, at the age of twenty, an appointment as "writer" in the service of the East India Company—the narrow gateway through which many a youth passed, in those and earlier days, to the ultimate charge of weighty affairs, to a heritage of strife and often of bloodshed. Lord Clive and Warren Hastings



SILVER CANDELABRA
PRESENTED TO C. G. MANSEL, H.E.L. Co.'s Service,
BY THE PROPRIETORY BOARD OF THE AGRA BANK.

had passed through it before him, each to win immense distinction, not unmixed with blame.

Young Mansel was evidently regarded as singularly capable for his years; at the age of two-and-twenty he was registrar and assistant magistrate at Agra (1828); acting magistrate in 1830, joint magistrate and deputy collector in the following year, magistrate and collector in 1835, and temporary secretary to the lieutenant-governor in 1837. From December, 1838, to April, 1841, he was sudder settlement officer in Agra, and in 1842 published a valuable "Report on the Settlement of the District of Agra." In 1841 he became deputy accountant general at Calcutta, and in 1843 one of the auditors. Thus, at the age of thirty-seven, Charles Grenville Mansel had risen to a position of high responsibility; and in the following year, having been continuously occupied in India since 1826, he went to England on long furlough.

During his absence came the long trouble in the Punjab, entailing the desperate battles of the First and Second Sikh wars, in which more than one Maunsell participated: Frederick Maunsell of the Royal Engineers, and Thomas Maunsell of the 32nd Light Infantry.

With the battle of Gujarat in 1849, the resistance of the brave Sikhs was finally broken, and the Punjab was annexed.

It was apparent to every experienced administrator in India that the government of this large province, with its proud and war-like people, smarting under defeat, and only waiting, perhaps, for an opportunity of once more trying conclusions with the British forces, would be a difficult and delicate business.

Sir Charles Napier, the newly-appointed commander-in-chief, was all for military government; he was prone to regard civil authority with a contemptuous and disapproving eye, though he could not close it to the immense services which had been rendered in India by civilians and "soldier-politicals."

Lord Dalhousie, the governor-general, on the other hand, was averse from military rule, but was still somewhat apprehensive as to the result of an entirely civil government under the circumstances.

In the end he arrived at a very wise and statesmanlike

solution of the problem ; instead of entrusting the administration of the province to any single man, either soldier or otherwise, it was to be governed by a board of three ; and the two leading and principal members of this board were to be the brothers Henry and John Lawrence—a selection which was approved by everyone with any knowledge of India and of the two men in question : both men of exceptional courage, ability, and experience in dealing with the natives of India, and more especially with these brave and somewhat truculent men of the Punjab.

Lord Dalhousie—as events proved—was wise in adopting this course ; he was also very wise in making the board of government a small one. Boards and committees consisting of ten, or fifteen, or twenty members usually end by making confusion worse confounded, unless there are one or two dominating personalities who practically control the whole business.

Three is a good working number : and who was the third to be ? Charles Grenville Mansel, returning refreshed after his long furlough, in 1849, was selected as the colleague of the two Lawrences in their formidable task—a selection which must be held to indicate the possession of very high attributes on Mansel's part, and perhaps also some recognition on the part of the governor-general and his advisers of his special qualifications to act with the two Lawrences.

Professor Bosworth Smith, in his "Life of Lord Lawrence," says : "He (Mansel) was a man of contemplation rather than of action, and it was perhaps well that he was so, for the two brothers—with all their high mental gifts—were pre-eminently men of action. Mansel thus served as a foil to them both, in a different sense from that in which they served as a foil to each other. He was admirably fitted to discover the weak points in any course of action which was proposed, and, with somewhat irritating impartiality, would argue with John in favour of Henry's views, and with Henry in favour of John's."

These three performed invaluable service in the pacification of the Punjab, which cannot here be entered upon in detail : but Mansel's association with the famous brothers was not, after all, destined to be of long duration. Professor Bosworth Smith explains

how this came about: "Both brothers appreciated highly his intellectual gifts, and regarded him with the most friendly feelings. But both looked upon him, also, as a drag upon the coach. They were always, or nearly always, for action; he was always, or nearly always, for talking about it. . . . When, as often happened, Henry Lawrence had one plan for the solution of a difficult problem, and John another, and they were both brought to Mansel for his deciding voice, he 'cushioned' both of them: that is to say, he put them into his pocket, and the question was shelved *sine die*. He would sometimes, as I have been told by an eye-witness, walk for an hour or two up and down the verandah in front of the Residency arguing seriously against some project which Henry was pressing upon him with characteristic earnestness. At the end of the discussion he would say quietly, 'Well, though I have been arguing thus with you, I have not been speaking my own views; I have only been showing you what might be said by John against your project'; and he would often do the same with John."¹

The excellent Mansel was, in other words, just a trifle irritating to the highly-strung, strenuous brothers, who loved the tag, "deeds, not words"; and so, the Residency in Nagpore falling vacant in 1850, they recommended him to Dalhousie for the post, which he held until his retirement in 1855.

Mansel's son, Colonel Charles Grenville Mansel, states that he was practically the founder of the Agra Bank in India, and for his services as director he was presented with a silver candelabra worth £200. A tablet was erected to him in Lathbury Church in 1903; and in the church at Southam Delabere, Prestbury, Gloucestershire, his name appears among a number, inscribed upon the walls, to whose assistance Lord Ellenborough was more especially indebted for the success of his administration in India.² In 1843 he presented a new organ to Lathbury Church.

Charles Grenville Mansel was undoubtedly a very worthy and excellent civil servant and administrator: one of the long succession

¹ "The Life of Lord Lawrence," by Reud. Bosworth Smith: pp. 156, 193.

² Lord Ellenborough was buried at Oxenton Church, near Cheltenham; Prestbury is some fifteen miles about south-west from Oxenton.

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of Englishmen who, by their courage, probity, tact, and humanity, have rendered such immense services both to their own country and to the peoples of India. It is perhaps remarkable that he should have retired at the relatively early age of forty-nine.

He married—during his long furlough in England, previous to his appointment to the board of administration in the Punjab—Anna Mary, daughter of — O'Bryan, of Balliglas, county Tipperary, and had issue as set forth in the pedigree.

His eldest son, Colonel C. G. Mansel, commanded the Third Punjab Cavalry. His war services are as follows: Mahsud Waziri Expedition, 1881; Waziristan Expedition, 1894-5—medal with clasp; North-West Frontier of India, 1897-8; operations on the Samana and in the Kurram Valley, August and September, 1897; Relief of Gulistan; operations of the Flying Column in the Kurram Valley, August 20 to October 1, 1897; Line of Communication, Tirah Field Force, 1897-8—medal with two clasps. Specially employed in surveying and reporting upon the fords and ferries of the Indus. Received the "Thanks of H. E. the Commander-in-Chief, 19 Sept. 1887." Special employment under Government of India in collecting trans-border commissariat and transport statistics, on North-West Frontier, in Punjab, and Beloochistan, 1888-90. Received the "Thanks of the Governor-General in India in Council, 19 April, 1892."

He retired from the service in 1900, and married Gwendolen M. Polson, only daughter of John Polson, Esquire, deceased, and Mrs. Polson, of Kingston Lodge, Kensington, London.

After the death of Mansel Dawkin Mansel, in 1823, the Lathbury estate was sold to the trustees of Mary Isabella, sole heiress of Richard J. Tibbits, Esquire, of Barton Seagrave, Northamptonshire, afterwards Viscountess Hood. She married, secondly, Dr. G. Hall, and thirdly, J. Borlase Maunsell, who assumed the name of Tibbits. He was of the Maunsells of Thorpe Malsor, of whom more hereafter.

CHAPTER IV

The Great Rebellion

IN dealing with the life and times of Vice-Admiral Sir Robert Mansel and others of the family, some of the characteristics of the two first Stuart monarchs have already been incidentally illustrated.

We have seen how James, driven by the representations of the Earl of Northampton and others, ordered a rigorous and sorely needed enquiry into the condition of the Navy, which, neglected and maladministered during the later years of Elizabeth's reign, went from bad to worse in that of her successor ; and how the latter, upon receiving the very condemnatory report of Northampton's commission, shrugged his shoulders and avoided " unpleasantness " by shelving the whole business, while corrupt and unscrupulous officials continued to enrich themselves from the public purse.

We have seen how he tied the hands of Sir Robert Mansel in the matter of the Algiers expedition, compelling him to treat with robbers and pirates as though they were honourable and responsible statesmen, and keeping him in ignorance of ulterior motives which clashed with the avowed object of the undertaking, with the result that the admiral was crushed by a load of censure, in a great measure unmerited, which has been tardily and only partially removed by the more just and lenient judgment of a recent historian, and in respect of which the searching investigation in this present work presents the last word, and places the conduct of the expedition in its true light.

We have seen how Charles, with characteristic rapacity and immorality, permitted and encouraged, through his Council, the abominable abuses of the monopolies, whereby his own privy purse was swelled, and honest traders were plunged in ruin, until the scandal became too outrageous to be borne.

These deplorable amenities, however, sink into nothingness compared with the progressive tyrannies of the reign of Charles, which exasperated his ministers and subjects beyond bearing, and culminated in the most terrible civil war in English history.

From the earliest days of his reign, Charles displayed a callous indifference to the rights and liberties of his subjects, and a growing tendency to the assumption of absolute autocracy. He arbitrarily dissolved his two first parliaments, in 1625 and 1626, to save his favourite, Buckingham, from well-merited condemnation and probable impeachment.

When the third parliament was called, in 1628, it became obvious that the "country party," the strenuous advocates of the liberties of the people, were in strong force, and Charles was compelled to make some concessions: amongst others was the release of a number of gentlemen who had been imprisoned for resisting a forced loan in the preceding year. Five of these gentlemen succeeded, in virtue of the Habeas Corpus Act, in arguing their case before the King's Bench, maintaining that their imprisonment was contrary to the provisions of Magna Charta; but the crown lawyers ruled otherwise, on the ground that they were committed *by the king's special command*: and back to prison they went as the reward of their effort.

This arbitrary proceeding produced the Petition of Right, to which Charles, in the first instance, vouchsafed a merely evasive reply, characteristic in its callous insolence: "The King willeth that right be done according to the laws and customs of the realm." This, however, elicited such a storm of protest that he speedily substituted a very different answer: "Let right be done as is desired," thus practically accepting the terms of the petition. But when the Commons proposed to remind the king that the levying of tonnage and poundage without the previous consent of parliament was contrary to its spirit, he took refuge in the summary prorogation of parliament, while copies of the Petition of Right were circulated, with the king's first evasive reply appended, thus convicting him in the public eye of flagrant duplicity.

When parliament assembled again, in 1629, the session

terminated in the imprisonment and fining of several members for moving certain resolutions which were obnoxious to the king, who again dissolved parliament, and announced his intention of dispensing with its services in future, and governing the kingdom alone; and this he actually did during the eleven ensuing years. "We shall account it presumption," he says in his proclamation, "for any one to prescribe any time unto us for parliaments, the calling, continuing, and dissolving of which is always in our power."

This assumption of absolute power naturally afforded opportunity of unbounded impositions on the people; the Petition of Right became a dead letter, and no method of raising money was to be disputed or held to be unconstitutional. Compositions and fines, tonnage and poundage, and other exactions of the most flagrantly tyrannical and unjustifiable nature, were freely imposed and rigorously extorted; monopolies in salt, soap, coals, wine, leather, beer, liquors, etc.—including also the manufacture and sale of glass, concerning which much has already been said—were revived. The soap company paid £10,000 for its charter, and £8 for every ton of soap manufactured; it was empowered to exercise an inquisition on the trade, and those who resisted were mercilessly fined, upon the *ex parte* representations of the favoured company, by the Star Chamber.

Then there was the much-disputed matter of the "ship money," imposed at first only upon seaport towns, but subsequently upon inland counties, which elicited bitter opposition. The judges, however, gave it as their opinion that it was a lawful measure when the welfare and safety of the kingdom demanded it, and that the king was the sole judge of the necessity. John Hampden, a gentleman of Buckinghamshire, refused to pay, and his cause came before the judges, a majority of whom decided in favour of the crown; but this very disagreement among them served to accentuate the exasperation of the people under the innumerable impositions, impressing them with the conviction that there was to be no limitation to the king's absolute power, *malgré* judges or anybody else.

And so the dismal tale goes on; the king, with Thomas Wentworth—afterwards Earl of Strafford—and Archbishop Laud

as his principal advisers, pursued his relentless course, every year drawing nearer to inevitable catastrophe.

In 1640, after the dispute with Scotland over the new liturgy, and the futile display of arms at Berwick, followed by the abolition of episcopacy by the General Assembly in Scotland, Charles bethought him that it would be as well once more to convene his English parliament, which met in April of that year.

Its session was of very brief duration; Hampden, and others of the country party, true to their colours, brought forward measures for the redress of grievances in various directions; but Charles wanted money, not measures, and finding that this was not likely to be forthcoming, dissolved parliament after a sitting of three weeks—from which circumstance this is appropriately known as the "Short Parliament."

Charles, obtaining money from Convocation, voluntary subscriptions—said to have amounted to £300,000, a pretty clear proof that a little tact and toleration on his part would have secured him the support of the people—ship money, and other more drastic means, was enabled to raise an army against the Scots, which again yielded and retreated, after being beaten at Newburn, to York, where negotiations for an understanding were opened.

The king endeavoured by every means to avoid calling another parliament, but at length was compelled to yield to pressure, and in November, 1640, issued the necessary writs, which inaugurated the "Long Parliament," so called on account of its duration, amidst civil war and every phase of administration, culminating in regicide, for nearly twenty years.

The Commons made an honest attempt to secure the liberties of the people, and to reconcile religious differences; but all to no purpose. In 1642 no solution appeared possible save in the appeal to arms; and the setting up of the king's standard at Nottingham on August 22 was regarded as an open declaration of hostilities.

Among the many deplorable attributes of civil war is the almost inevitable ranging of near relatives upon opposite sides. In normal times a divergence of political views may exist, side by side with friendly intercourse, between fathers and sons, brethren and

cousins, and so forth—though it cannot be denied that it sometimes engenders bitter, if somewhat illogical, hatred; illogical, for where all claim liberty of opinion, why should either side hate the other for exercising the privilege?

When, however, political differences develop rancour so fierce and relentless that nought save the arbitrament of arms will serve to settle the dispute, those nearest of kin, and not infrequently upon intimate and affectionate terms in all other respects, may find themselves pledged to mutual deadly combat.

Such instances are not lacking in the history of the Maunsells. In the Barons' Wars of the time of Henry III., Sir John Maunsell, the king's principal counsellor and right-hand man, beheld his near relatives—in all probability his sons, Thomas and Henry—fighting on the other side, together with Henry Hussey (or Hoese), his great-nephew by marriage; while John—probably another son—and his nephew of the same name were loyal to the king.

In the Wars of the Roses, while Philip Mansel and his kinsman Griffith ap Nicholas fought for Lancaster, Thomas Maunsell, of Yorkshire and Essex, was with the Yorkists, as were likewise the Dwynns and Wogans, connected by marriage with the Mansels.

When Charles set up his standard at Nottingham, Sir Anthony Mansel and his relative Sir Edward Stradling were among the first to join him. The splendid, if passive, loyalty of Dr. Francis Mansel of Jesus College has already been described, while Bussy Mansel, their cousin, speedily attained a position of command and responsibility under the Parliament.

It is not, of course, proposed to deal with the Civil War in detail; the foregoing sketch or summary of the circumstances which led up to it was deemed necessary in order to avoid a crude embarkation upon the account of the part played by some of the Mansels in the struggle, to which attention must now be devoted.

After a futile attempt at peace negotiation, early in 1643, and some successes by the Royalists during the ensuing summer,¹ the

¹ At the minor engagement of Chalgrove Field, June 18, John Hampden, the stout champion of the liberties of the people, received his death-wound in trying to intercept Prince Rupert's cavalry.

two armies encountered at Newbury in Berkshire on September 20.

There were two battles fought at Newbury, the second occurring October 27, 1644; and it was in one of these encounters that a member of the Mansel family met with a tragic death under peculiarly horrifying circumstances—according to the account of a connection of the family.

Anthony Mansel, second son of Sir Francis, first baronet of Muddlescombe, was knighted in 1629, and in the following year was governor of Cardiff Castle, and subsequently of Ragland Castle, Monmouth.

His daughter, Anne, married Thomas Duckett, Esquire, of Steeple Morden, Cambridgeshire, and their only daughter married the Rev. Joseph Bentham, prebendary of Lincoln Cathedral. In Shaw's "History and Antiquities of Staffordshire" (Appendix to vol. ii., p. 7) there appear some letters from Joseph Bentham to his son Anthony, in one of which, dated May 3, 1714, occurs the following passage: "She" (*i.e.*, Joseph Bentham's wife) "was the only daughter of Thomas Duckett, of Steeple Morden in the county of Cambridge, a very ancient and honourable family. Her mother's maiden name was Anne Mansel, an incomparable lady both in person and in parts: she was daughter of Sir Anthony Mansel, and sister to Sir Edward Mansel, Bart., late of Muddlescombe, in Carmarthenshire. Your name, Anthony, was given you at your baptism by your god-father and great uncle, Bussy Mansel Esq., late of Britton Ferry, in co. Glamorgan, in memory of your stout and loyal (great) grandfather, Sir Anthony Mansel, Governor of Ragland Castle, in Monmouthshire, who gloriously lost his life in the service of his Royal Master, King Charles I., in the bloody and fatal battle fought on Newbury Plain, in Berkshire, on October 27th, 1644, where the rebels got the day; and a cannon ball, with chain shot, took off Sir Anthony's head with the upper part of his body, while he was briskly charging and routing the enemy. After that sad disaster his horse ran up and down the ranks with the lower part of his dead master's body, being fast locked in his war saddle, with terror and afrightment both to friend and foe."

This story, handed down through a couple of generations, must be accepted as fact, with regard at least to the ghastly and tragic manner in which the gallant Sir Anthony met his death ; but it may be questioned as to the date of the incident.

There were, as already noted, two battles at Newbury, and Mr. Bentham is at variance with another authority as to that in which Sir Anthony Mansel was slain.

Mr. R. G. Maunsell (p. 29) has a footnote to the following effect, giving *verbatim* some information supplied to him by Walter Money, Esquire, F.S.A., of Snelsmore, Newbury: "Anthony Maunsell (*sic*) was Governor of Cardiff Castle, and it is recorded in the 'Historical Register of Lords, Knights, and Gentlemen who were slain in defence of their King and Country during the unnatural Rebellion begun in 1641,' that 'he fell at the first battle of Newbury, 20th September, 1643.' The name is also thus given in a contemporary list in the possession of the R. Catholic Chapter of London."

Where this "Historical Register" is to be found Mr. Maunsell's informant does not state ; but the testimony of a local antiquary may be accepted without hesitation with regard to the existence of this categorical assertion ; whether it should be permitted to outweigh the family tradition, as recorded by the Rev. Joseph Bentham, is matter of opinion ; but a little consideration of the two battles may afford ground for arriving at a probable decision.

On September 8, 1643, the Earl of Essex, with his Parliamentary force, arrived at Gloucester, the king being then at Sudeley Castle, some eight miles distant. The royal scouts were not sufficiently vigilant, and Essex, who had previously marched to Tewkesbury, left that place on a dark night, surprised and captured some of the king's horse at Cirencester, together with a large quantity of provisions, and set forth towards London.

The king's forces had, however, waked up ; Prince Rupert, making a forced march, contrived to intercept Essex, and did considerable execution with his horsemen, so that the Parliamentary troops were obliged to stay their march at Hungerford, instead of going on, as had been designed, to Newbury.

This delay gave the king time to get up, and when, on

September 19, Essex advanced from Hungerford, he found the royal forces in possession of Newbury.

"It was now thought by many that the King had recovered whatsoever had been lost by former oversights, omissions, or neglects, and that by destroying the army which had relieved Gloucester, he should be fully recompensed for being disappointed of that purchase. He seemed to be possessed of all advantages to be desired. . . . So that it was conceived that it was in the King's power whether he would fight or no, and therefore that he might compel them to notable disadvantages who must take their way or starve : and this was so fully understood, that it was resolved overnight not to engage in battle but upon such grounds as should give an assurance of victory. But contrary to this resolution, when the Earl of Essex had with excellent conduct drawn out his army in battalia upon a hill called Big's Hill, within less than a mile of the town, and ordered his men in places to the best advantage, by the precipitate courage of some young officers, who had good commands, and who unhappily always undervalued the courage of the enemy, strong parties became successively so far engaged that the King was compelled to put the whole to the hazard of a battle, and to give the enemy at least an equal game to play. . . . The King's horse, with a kind of contempt for the enemy, charged with wonderful boldness upon all grounds of inequality, and were so far too hard for the troops of the other side that they routed them in most places, till they had left the greatest part of their foot without any guard at all of horse. But the foot behaved themselves admirably on the enemy's part . . . and when their wings of horse were scattered and dispersed, kept their ground so steadily that, though Prince Rupert himself led up the choice horse to charge them, and endured their storm of small shot, he could make no impression upon their stand of pikes, but was forced to wheel about. . . . It was fought all that day without any such notable turn as that either party could think they had much the better. For though the King's horse made the enemy's often give ground, yet the foot were so immovable that little was gotten by the other ; and the first entrance into the battle was so sudden, and without order, that during the whole day no use was made of the

King's cannon, though that of the enemy was placed so unhappily that it did very great execution upon the King's party, both horse and foot."¹

Here was ample opportunity, in these daring cavalry charges under artillery fire, which, confessedly, could not be returned, for Sir Anthony Mangel to meet with his death in the manner described. Turning to the other battle, thirteen months later, let us see how the circumstances compare with those of September 20, 1643.

After the relief of Banbury, which had been effected on October 25, 1644, by the Earl of Northampton, with a strong body of horse detached from the king's army at Newbury, the enemy joined forces and advanced upon the king, having received information, as is alleged, through one Colonel Hurry or Urry,² a turncoat, of the absence of Northampton's force, and consequent weakening of the royal army.

The king resolved to stand upon the defensive, having the advantage of the position, and hoping that the enemy would soon grow tired of camping in the open, and retire.

"On Sunday morning, the 27th October, by the break of day, one thousand of the Earl of Manchester's army, with the trainbands of London, came down the hill, and passed the river that was by Shaw, and, undiscovered, forced that guard which should have kept the pass that was near the house that was intrenched, where Sir Bernard Ashly lay, and who instantly, with a good body of musketeers, fell upon the enemy, and not only routed them but compelled them to rout two other bodies of their own men, and who were coming to second them. In this pursuit very many of the enemy were slain, and many drowned in the river, and above two hundred arms taken. There continued all that day very warm skirmishes in several parts, the enemy's army having almost encompassed the King's, and with much more loss to them than to the King : till about three in the afternoon Waller, with his own and the

¹ Clarendon's "History of the Rebellion." Vol. iii., pp. 173-175.

² John Hurry, a Scotsman ; he joined the Parliamentary Army in 1642 ; in the following year he went over to the Royalists, and was knighted June 18, 1643, for his services. In August, 1644, however, believing the Royal cause lost, he returned to the Parliament.

forces which had been under Essex, fell upon the quarter at Speen, and passed the river, which was not well defended . . . by this means the enemy possessed themselves of the ordnance which had been placed there, and of the village of Speen ; the foot which were there retired to the hedge next the large field between Speen and Newbury, which they made good. At the same time, the right wing of the enemy's horse advanced under the hill of Speen, with one hundred musketeers in their van, and came into the open field, where a good body of the King's horse stood, and which at first received them in some disorder ; but the Queen's regiment of horse, commanded by Sir John Cansfeild, charged them with so much gallantry that he routed that great body, which then fled, and he had the execution of them near half a mile, wherein most of the musketeers were slain, and very many of the horse ; insomuch that that whole wing rallied not again that night." ¹

Other charges of horse, led by Goring, the Earl of Cleveland, and Sir John Browne, are described ; but the whole account does not convey the impression of incessant cavalry encounters, as in the first battle, nor is there allusion to a heavy attack by cannon—artillery, in fact, is barely mentioned, save with regard to the capture of two "drakes" from the enemy.²

The first battle of Newbury was indecisive, and the second, though Mr. Joseph Bentham says "the rebels got the day," was by no means as adverse to the royal forces as King Charles at first feared, or the rebels hoped. Clarendon maintains that the losses on the Parliamentary side were far heavier than on the king's ; "but because the King's army quitted the field, and marched away in the night, the other side thought themselves masters, and the Parliament celebrated their victory with their usual triumphs ; though within a few days after they discerned that they had little reason for it."

There is a detailed account of the two battles of Newbury in a volume by Mr. Walter Money, of Newbury, who has made a special study of the events connected with the neighbourhood.

In this account Sir Anthony is unhesitatingly placed as having

¹ Clarendon's *History of the Rebellion*, 1652, II., pp. 433, 434.

² "Drake," or "dragon," a small piece of artillery.

been slain in the first battle, in accordance with the Historical Register alluded to elsewhere; and there can be little doubt that this statement is correct, and that Mr. Joseph Benthall is in error in placing the second battle as the scene of Sir Anthony's death.¹

Sir Edward Stradling of St. Donat's is also mentioned as having fought on the Royalist side in the first battle of Newbury; "and after the loss of that day, retired to Oxford, where he died of consumption."²

In the "Complete Baronetage" Sir Edward Stradling is stated to have "fought for the Royal cause at the battle of Newbury, Oct. 1644"; but it appears more probable that he fought only in the first battle.

It was this Sir Edward whose widow—daughter of Hugh Perry, of London—afterwards married Bussy Mansel of Britton Ferry.

Of Bussy Mansel, the first mention in state records as connected with the Great Rebellion appears to be in a letter written by him to Sir Jacob Astley (Baron of Reading),³ a very staunch Royalist, in 1645.

Bussy Mansel was only nineteen when the Civil War broke out, so it is scarcely to be expected that anything would be heard of him at that time; and he was only two-and-twenty when he wrote to Sir Jacob Astley. The letter is somewhat obscure in its meaning, but some of the expressions therein can only be interpreted as indicating that the writer was at that time on the king's side, though perhaps wavering in his allegiance.

"13 Sept. 1645. Before I received your letter and his Majesty's command, I had in effect given up what his Majesty is

¹ "The Battles of Newbury," by Walter Money, F.S.A., pp. 20, 42, 76. Mr. Money styles Sir Anthony as "of Trimsaran," but this is obviously an error. The Trimsaran estates did not come to the Mansel family until forty years later. See account and pedigree, *ante*, p. 127.

² *Ibid.*, p. 76.

³ Sir Jacob Astley was second son of Isaac Astley, of Hill Morton, county Warwick, and Melton Constable, Northants, and only named county York in the "Complete Baronetage". He was governor of Plymouth, 1638, and served in the King's 100 Regt. of Foot in the Scottish campaign of 1640. In 1642 he was lieutenant major-general of the king's army, and was created Baron Astley of Reading, Nov. 4, 1644. He distinguished himself by his gallantry at Naseby in 1645.

now pleased to recall from me, for since the madness of the multitude took me off from performing conditions with your Lordship, myself and Colonel (Humphrey) Matthew left them not without danger to our persons, with a resolution never to return to them again. Where our persuasions might prevail we effected your commands. We are confident that all would have disbanded, but for the plundering of the soldiers marching out of the county. I stay for a boat to carry me for Cornwall from this county, that I may clear up all doubts of my encouraging the people this way they are now upon. You may be assured I can render nothing back with more content than what is commanded from me, since I was so unfortunate as not to be better able to serve his Majesty." ¹

Whence this letter was written does not appear, but it was certainly from some place in South Wales, whence the most ready means of getting to Cornwall would be by sea. Bussy's object in going there was obviously to avoid being implicated in "the madness of the multitude" to which he alludes, and which he and Colonel Matthew had been powerless to allay. There is no mention in Clarendon's "History of the Great Rebellion," or Gardiner's work on the subject, of these popular disturbances in Glamorganshire, but from Bussy Mansel's letter the madness of the multitude must have been exhibited against the king and his army.

We hear no more of Bussy Mansel for three months; whether he took boat to Cornwall, or how he was employed during this time does not appear: but on December 20, 1645, he was appointed to command the Parliamentary forces in Glamorganshire.²

The appointment of so young a man to this responsible post has already been commented upon; perhaps some explanation may be found in the fact of the wealth and prominence of the Mansels in Wales.

Richard Symonds, in his Diary, enumerates, among the Chief Inhabitants of Glamorganshire:

"Bushie (Bussy) Maunsell (*sic*) Esq. of Burton (Britton) Ferry. £1100 per annum.

¹ Cal. State Papers, Dom., 1645-1647; p. 136.

² Lords' Journals. Vol. viii., p. 52.

"Sir—Maunsell, Baronet of Margham. £4000 per annum.

"Sir Edward Stradling, Bart. of St. Donat's Castle. £4000 per annum if out of lease."¹

It is somewhat remarkable that Symonds spells the name *Maunsell*; the Mansels of Margam and Britton Ferry never spelled it so; the more simple and strictly phonetic method would appear to come naturally to a stranger.

On January 26, 1646, Bussy Mansel, Edward Carne, and others wrote to Major-General Laugharne from Cardiff: "About the time of the receipt of yours of the 22nd of January . . . we received intelligence of an increase of misery happened to Monmouthshire by the sudden surprise of their forces by the enemy from Ragland or Caerleon, which without some speedy assistance hath laid that country open to the violence and rapine of that barbarous and bloody crew, now much animated by that advantage. The gentry of that country therefore and ourselves have instructed the gentlemen, bearers hereof, to crave your best aid, and to let you know the condition of our both counties and the sad consequences of the prevalency of the enemy, not only to rush as a torrent on that and the adjacent counties to their ruin, but likewise the danger of their moulding a new considerable power to the disturbance of the kingdom for the prevention whereof we desire as many forces as you can spare."²

At the surrender of Cardiff to the Parliamentary forces, on February 19 following, General Laugharne stipulates that the gentlemen of the town "shall not draw to any rendezvous without order or warrant from Colonel-General Bussy Mansell." The terms of surrender are couched in manly and generous terms, and redound to the credit of Laugharne.³

General Laugharne, in 1648, had gone over to the Royalists, apparently from jealousy of Colonel Horton, who had been sent into his district of command, and also on account of the alleged injustice

¹ "Diary of the Marches of the Royal Army" (Camden Soc.); p. 216. Symonds was among the troop of horse which formed the king's life-guard.

² Portland MSS. Vol. L., p. 345.

³ *Ibid.*, pp. 351, 352.

towards his soldiers, who, in disgust, had joined the king's standard in a body at Pembroke, whither their general also betook himself—being, in fact, left otherwise with no army to command. He was defeated by Horton at St. Fagan's—a village about four miles north-west from Cardiff—on May 8, 1648, and was afterwards, together with Colonels Poyer and Powell, tried by court martial and sentenced to death. The three officers were, however, permitted to draw lots for their lives; Poyer was the unlucky one, and was duly executed.

Bussy Mansel does not appear to have followed the example of his superior officer at this time, as we find him being appointed, in 1651, by the Parliamentary authorities, one of the commissioners and justices who were instructed to investigate concerning the insurrection in the county of Cardigan; ¹ seven or eight years later, however, when the cause of Charles II. was gradually becoming more hopeful, Bussy appears to have transferred his allegiance once more.

In a letter written on April 1, 1659, from Brussels, by Sir Edward Nicholas (Secretary of state under Charles I. and Charles II.), to Mr. Steere, occurs the following: "I have acquainted the King with all your letters; he is glad to hear that Bussy Mansel is so well recovered, and that the business under his care is in so good a condition. . . . The King wishes me to tell you that what you and your friend and Mansel send shall be very welcome to him, and he will send his resolutions on hearing of the particulars of the affairs committed to your care."²

Mansel was, of course, only one out of many who adapted their conduct to the turn of the wheel of fortune at this period. Subsequently to the date of the letter above quoted, however, he was still in the employ of the Parliament, for on July 13, 1659, Bulstrode Whitelocke, president of the Council of State, wrote to him to take command of the militia in counties Pembroke, Carmarthen, and Cardigan, and a fortnight later he was directed by the same authority to assume command of the whole of the militia

¹ Cal. State Papers, Dom., 1651; pp. 266, 267.

² *Ibid.*, 1658-1659; p. 325.

forces in South Wales.¹ Whitelocke was at this very time secretly favouring the schemes of Royalists, and thus, like Mansel, keeping a foot in either camp—which was certainly politic, but scarcely admirable.

On September 19 in the same year Bussy Mansel writes to Samuel Moyer: "By the care of our small forces in South Wales, it was so kept from insurrection that there will be little work for Sequestration Commissioners," etc.; he recommends some in case their services should be required.²

How Bussy Mansel fared after the Restoration there is but little evidence to show; he appears to have kept aloof from political intrigue, save in one instance, already alluded to in a previous chapter.³

The Stradlings, so nearly related to the Mansels by marriage, fought consistently on the king's side, and their names appear frequently in accounts of the fighting in Wales.

Sir Edward Stradling is said to have brought a thousand men from Wales to Shrewsbury,⁴ and perhaps took them on into Warwickshire, for his name appears among the prisoners taken at Edge Hill, on October 24, 1642;⁵ he must, however, have been liberated, for, as we have seen, he took part in the first battle of Newbury in the following year, having previously also fought, together with Lieutenant-Colonel John Stradling, at the siege of Bristol, where Waller was defeated, and King Charles, on the strength of this and other successes, issued a declaration to the people, conjuring them "by their memory of that excellent peace and firm happiness with which it pleased God to reward their duty and loyalty in time past . . . to remember their duty and consider their interest," etc.⁶ Unfortunately, "excellent peace and firm happiness" had been conspicuously absent under Charles's rule!

¹ Cal. State Papers, Dom., 1659-1660; pp. 24, 56.

² Proceedings of the Committee for Compounding, etc. Vol. i., p. 747.

³ See *ibid.*, p. 74.

⁴ *Ibid.* Vol. i., p. 128.

⁵ Clarendon's "History of the Rebellion" (1858). Vol. ii., p. 371.

⁶ *Ibid.* Vol. iii., p. 120.

Major-General Stradling, jointly with Major-General Egerton, in command of a force of some 1,500 horse and foot at Haverfordwest, fought a battle, against a Parliamentary force under General Laugharne, on Colby Moor, about three miles from the town, on August 1, 1645. The fight began about six p.m., and only lasted about an hour, resulting in the defeat of the Royalists by an inferior force; about one hundred and fifty were slain, and some seven hundred were taken prisoners. Neither Stradling nor Egerton are among the prisoners named.¹ They retired on Carmarthen with the remnant of their force, and endeavoured to recruit more men in this and the bordering counties, but in vain.

At Rowton Heath—September 24, 1645—Colonel Sir Henry Stradling was taken prisoner, and subsequently, after the siege of Pembroke, in July, 1648, he and Lieutenant-Colonel Stradling were among those Royalists who were sentenced to two years' banishment from the kingdom.

Lady Stradling, Sir Edward's wife, and daughter of Sir Thomas Mansel, first baronet of Margam, was very active, in collaboration with her sister-in-law, Lady Elizabeth Mansel (afterwards Lady Sebright),² in furthering as far as possible the Royal cause.

On October 1, 1642, Dame May Stradling wrote from St. Donat's Castle to her "dear sister" the Lady Elizabeth Mansel: "Mr. Stradling wished me to tell your Ladyship that he is your most humble and obliged servant, and giveth your Ladyship many thanks for the muskets, with the appurtenances, which he received from you."

On November 26, 1645, Lady Stradling writes to Lady Elizabeth Sebright: "I have sent you six muskets and some matches. As for wethers, here are a great many fat, but I cannot as yet get such a settlement as to sell any of them; but I hope before the end of Christmas I shall, for God knoweth I should be gladder that they

¹ "Memoirs of the Civil War in Wales and the Marches," I. R. Phillips. Vol. ii., p. 266.

² She was, as will be recalled, daughter of the Earl of Mar, sister, and wife of Sir Lewis Mansel, who died in 1648; she afterwards married Sir Edward Sebright, apparently between 1642 and 1645, as Lady Stradling addresses her as *Mansel* in the first, and *Sebright* in the second letter.

might serve your turn than anybody's in the world. . . . I beg your Ladyship's pardon that I do not now send you your muskets ; for, since the writing of my letter unto you, I understand that they went amongst others which I sent unto Jack for Cardiff. They will be back here on Saturday next, and by God's leave I will send them unto you by Monday or Tuesday next at the latest."¹

Lady Stradling also housed at St. Donat's Royalists who were in straits or difficulties : among others James Usher, Archbishop of Armagh, who was the guest at Cardiff Castle of his son-in-law, Sir Timothy Tyrrell, but was compelled to leave on account of the evacuation of the castle.²

Sir John Stepney (third baronet), grandson of Sir Francis Mansel of Muddlescombe, was also a Royalist. He was member for Haverfordwest, and governor of that town. It was apparently taken for granted in the first instance that Sir John would be on the side of the Parliament, for in an order issued on August 18, 1642—four days before King Charles hoisted his standard at Nottingham—by the Lords and Commons, his name is included among a number of gentlemen who are instructed to take immediate steps for calling out the militia in the county of Pembroke.³

In the following year, however, he is one of the signatories to a "Protestation" of loyalty, which commences with the statement—not an accurate one—that "the famous haven of Milford, Tenby, Haverfordwest, and all other places in Pembrokeshire being reduced to His Majesty by that noble and prudent Earl of Carberry,⁴ his Majesty's Lieut. General of the counties of Pembroke, Carmarthen, and Cardigan, there now remained only Pembroke town and castle out of his Majesty's possession, for the gaining whereof the noble gentry of this county made a protestation," etc.⁵

¹ "Stradling Correspondence," ed. by J. M. Traherne; pp. xiv., xv., xvi. "Jack" was Major-General John Stradling, alluded to above.

² "The Life of Dr. James Usher," by Richard Parr, D.D.; pp. 58, 60.

³ Lords' Journals. Vol. vi., p. 304.

⁴ Richard Vaughan, second Earl of Carberry.

⁵ This pronouncement was published in *Mercure Politique*, a spasmodic weekly journal issued intermittently from Oxford. It professed to communicate "The Intelligence and affairs of the Court to the rest of the Kingdom," as implied in the title, which means "Court Mercury." It was not, however, a very reliable informant, being addicted to bombast and exaggeration.

This is followed by the announcement that the Protestation had so affected the townsmen of Pembroke, that they sent a letter to Lord Carberry proclaiming their loyalty to the king. Pembroke was not, however, held for the king at that time, nor until four years later.

In 1644 Sir John Stepney was one of the members who formed the somewhat farcical King's Parliament at Oxford—it numbered forty-five Lords and one hundred and eighteen Commons. The only "business done" was the inditing of a long letter to the Earl of Essex, begging him to try and persuade "those whose confidence he possessed"—*i.e.*, the Parliament at Westminster—to bring about peace. Sir John Stepney was among those who signed this futile document, which was *returned* by Essex without a reply. The king soon tired of this travesty of a parliament, and it was dissolved after a session of four months.¹

Sir John Stepney was taken prisoner at Hereford in December, 1645; ² he died in 1650.

On July 2, 1651, the Council of State and the Admiralty Committee granted a pass for certain persons to proceed to Holland, to wit—Sidney Fotherby, John Moyle, Mary Mansell, Francis Whittaker, and Elizabeth Cock. The Fotherby family, it will be recollected, was connected by marriage with the Mansels of Muddlescombe, Elizabeth, probably daughter of Charles Fotherby, late Dean of Canterbury, having married Sir Walter Mansel, second baronet of Muddlescombe. This Mary Mansell was therefore probably of the Muddlescombe branch. The Moyles were also connected with the Fotherby family, for Priscilla, daughter of Dean Fotherby, married one Robert Moyle³—this John Moyle was probably his son; Sidney Fotherby may have been a son or grandson of either Dean Fotherby or his brother Martin, Bishop of Salisbury. At any rate, three of the members of this party of five were connected with the Mansels of Muddlescombe; and who was this Mary? She may have been

¹ "Memoirs of the Civil War in Wales and the Marches," by I. R. Phillips. Vol. i, p. 196; vol. ii, p. 286.

² *Ibid.*

³ Addit. MSS., 5500, fol. 70; Registers of Canterbury Cathedral, Harl. Soc. Registers. Vol. ii., p. 55.

married to a Mansel. Possibly she was Bussy Mansel's sister Mary, who was married to Colonel Edward Prichard; but as this marriage probably took place before the date of the warrant, and as Prichard was a Roundhead, it is difficult to account for her sailing under her maiden name; unless, indeed, the name of Prichard was held to be more likely to arouse suspicion abroad than that of Mansel; and there does not appear to be any reason why it should be so. If this party of five was setting out upon Parliamentary business, the fact would involve the deduction that the Fotherbys and the Moyles were of that side, which does not appear very probable; perhaps, after all, the warrant was granted merely for private affairs. It does not appear possible to identify Mary Mansel with any certainty.

There is a tradition that one Mansel, or Maunsell, fought at Naseby on the Parliamentary side.

The Rev. John Mastin, in his "Antiquities of Naseby," has the following: "The late Dr. Hill informed me that he had a relative, a Mr. Mansell, who fought in the battle of Naseby field, that he was wounded in the breast and left for dead. Being stripped to be buried, a young woman, daughter to an apothecary, happened to be upon the field, and finding his hand very soft exclaimed, 'This certainly was a gentleman!' She further observed that she felt a pulse, and consequently he was not dead. She pulled off her under petticoat, and wrapping him in it, had him conveyed to a neighbouring village, where he recovered and lived some years after. He kept the young woman as housekeeper to the time of his death, when he left her a handsome annuity."

This romantic story must be accepted for what it is worth. The Maunsells of Northamptonshire intermarried with the Hills, as will be seen in due course.

Another version of the story is that John Maunsell, a captain in Cromwell's bodyguard, was left for dead on the battlefield, but recovered, and afterwards purchased and rebuilt Thorpe Malsor House and estate. Whatever may be the truth as to one John Maunsell being left for dead, and so forth, the circumstantial embellishment concerning the purchase of the Thorpe Malsor estate is certainly inaccurate; Naseby was fought on June 14, 1645, and the

Thorpe Malsor estate passed into the hands of the Maunsells about the year 1622, when it was bought of John Watkyn by John Maunsell, of Chicheley, Bucks.

The story has, no doubt, some foundation ; but it cannot be verified, and so must remain as a family tradition, probably true in substance.

The flight and adventures of King Charles II., after the battle of Worcester, and his final escape to France, possess a special interest, in that one Francis Mansel, or Mansell, played a prominent part in providing the vessel which conveyed the king.

There are numerous accounts of the flight of the king after the battle was hopelessly lost ; they are mostly, however, compiled from one or two records, with some extra incidents or embellishments thrown in, which may or may not be authentic.

The two narratives which carry the most weight are Charles's own account, given to Samuel Pepys in 1689 (nine-and-twenty years after the events), and " Boscobel ; or the most miraculous preservation of King Charles II. after the battle of Worcester," written in 1660 by one Thomas Blount ;¹ also an account by Colonel Gunter, who played a prominent part in the matter.

To transcribe in full any of these detailed narratives would occupy too much space ; the summary of the king's adventures which follows will give a sufficiently clear account of his flight, up to the appearance of Francis Mansell upon the scene.

That Charles bore himself gallantly during the fateful battle, all accounts agree ; but Cromwell had taken care that the " big battalions " should be on his side, and the Royal army was hopelessly outnumbered.

When, in the afternoon (September 3, 1651), the king and his immediate followers realised that all was irretrievably lost, they

¹ Thomas Blount (1618-1679) was a barrister by profession, though he does not appear to have practised much ; he was handicapped, no doubt, by being a zealous Catholic. He must have gathered the details of his account by diligent enquiry, as he could not have had personal knowledge of them, and King Charles's narrative to Pepys was told after his death. Thomas Nash, in his " History and Antiquities of Worcestershire," denies the authorship of Blount, and even quotes an alleged letter from the king, in which he disclaims it. (Vol. iii. Supp. p. 62.) Nevertheless, it is almost universally believed that Thomas Blount was the author of " Boscobel."

made their escape from the town of Worcester by St. Martin's Gate ; and then arose the question as to the most prudent direction of their flight. The king, with his advisers, Lord Wilmot and others, were encumbered and harassed by the attendance of a large detachment of beaten and disorganised cavalry : " We had such a number of beaten men with us, of the horse, that I strove, as soon as ever it was dark, to get from them ; and though I could not get them to stand with me against the enemy, I could not get rid of them, now I had a mind to." ¹

The first idea was to get away to Scotland ; and at last the king, with some sixty officers, contrived to elude the ruck of beaten horsemen. Charles had by that time made up his mind to try for London instead, Lord Wilmot alone being in his confidence.

They reached that night a house named Whiteladies, about five-and-twenty miles from Worcester ; and here " there came in a country-fellow, that told us there were three thousand of our horse just hard by Tong-castle, upon the heath, all in disorder, under David Leslie and some other of the general officers " : whereupon the officers endeavoured to persuade Charles to start with this escort for Scotland. But he very wisely declined any such perilous venture, " knowing very well that the country would all rise upon us, and that men who had deserted me when they were in good order, would never stand to me when they have been beaten." ²

So all these gentlemen, except Lord Wilmot and one or two others, went off to join the disorganised horsemen, and were immediately attacked and routed ; while Charles, resolving to go to London on foot, proceeded to disguise himself.

While hiding in a wood, however, he again changed his mind, and determined to get over the Severn into Wales, where, at Swansea, or some other port, he hoped to take ship for France.

However, Swansea was not to be gained any more than London, for the fords were closely watched ; and concealment was found in the woods at Boscobel, near Whiteladies, both houses

¹ From the king's account, in Samuel Pepys' MS., edited by Sir David Dalrymple. Ed. 1803 ; p. 4.

² *Ibid.*, pp. 8, 9.

belonging at that time to Mrs. Cotton (*née* Giffard), whose relatives lived there—one Giffard, presumably Mrs. Cotton's brother, having been the king's guide thither.

It was in the woods around Boscobel that Charles hid during one day in the oak, with one Colonel Careless, or Carlos; from their hiding-place they saw the Parliamentary soldiers searching the wood, but remained undiscovered, though, we are told in one account, the king slept with his head on Careless's arm, which became numb from the pressure, so that he feared he would not be able longer to keep the king from falling out of the tree; nor did he dare speak, for the enemy was at that moment quartering the wood close by; so "he was constrained to practise so much incivility as to pinch his majesty to the end he might awake him to prevent his present danger."¹

Thence the king passed to the house of Colonel Lane, at Bentley; and finding that the colonel's sister, Jane, had a pass to go to Bristol, to visit her cousin, Mrs. Norton, Charles, disguised as her servant, under the name of William Jackson, accompanied her to her cousin's house, where he was recognised by the butler, one Pope, who had been a trooper in the army of Charles I. After considerable alarm, the king took Pope into his confidence, and he proved entirely worthy of it, going to Bristol to enquire about a ship to convey the king to France, which, however, he did not find.

The king remained in the same company until they arrived at the house of Frank Windham, at Trent, in Dorset; and there it was decided to attempt to obtain a ship at Lyme (Regis), whither Windham betook himself upon this errand, and succeeded in persuading a merchant there to arrange for the hire of a vessel; but he was forced to disclose the name and status of the intending passenger. However, they went to Lyme, or close by; but the master of the vessel, on the persuasion of his wife, who appears to have suspected the nature of the service required, declined to keep to his bargain.

Then a ship was found at Southampton, but she was "commandeered" to convey Cromwell's troops to Jersey, and so they were again disappointed.

During this period—from September 3 to about October 6—

¹ "The Flight of the King," by Allan Fea; p. 56.

which has been briefly covered, Charles had many very narrow escapes, and there are some amusing incidents recounted by various writers ; it will now be necessary to enter somewhat more into detail.

It was for some reasons deemed imprudent for the king to remain longer at Trent, both on his own account and that of his host ; before he left, however, Frank Windham's brother-in-law, Edward Hyde, coming to dine, mentioned that he had seen in Salisbury on the previous day one Colonel Robert Phelps, then living in Salisbury, his family seat at Montacute, in Somerset, being at that time under sequestration.¹ Windham mentioned this to the king, thinking that Phelps might be of assistance in procuring a vessel at one of the ports on the south coast ; and with this idea Lord Wilmot, still in faithful attendance upon the king, left for Salisbury on the following day.² It was through Colonel Phelps that the vessel was hired at Southampton, but, as has been related, was not after all available.

On Monday, October 6. Colonel Phelps acted as guide to the king, who departed, after nearly three weeks' residence at Trent, for Heale House, near Salisbury, the seat of Mrs. Hyde, a widow lady whose loyalty could be depended upon.

Meanwhile Lord Wilmot, after the conference with Phelps at Salisbury, bethought him of a friend who dwelt in Hampshire, to wit, Mr. Lawrence Hyde, a brother-in-law to the king's hostess at Heale.

Bristol, Southampton, and Lyme Regis had failed them as possible ports of embarkation ; it was obvious that some immediate steps should be taken, the risk of discovery and disaster becoming daily more imminent ; why not try for a ship at some Hampshire or Sussex port ?

Mr. Lawrence Hyde lived at Hambledon, a village about twelve miles north from Portsmouth. After some conference, he

¹ This splendid old mansion is still in the possession of the Phelps family. It is said that a valuable collection of books was wantonly destroyed by Cromwell's soldiers.

² Henry Wilmot (1612-1638), third son of Charles, first Viscount Wilmot. He had served with distinction in the Scottish war, and in the earlier battles of the Civil War, and was created Baron Wilmot, Adair, &c., Oxford, June 29, 1643. Subsequently (Dec. 13, 1652), he was created Earl of Rochester.

recommended Lord Wilmot to ride over and consult with Colonel George Gunter, at Rackton, near Chichester, who he thought was a man likely to be in the way of rendering some assistance; the Hydes and Gunters were connected by marriage.

It was a happy inspiration, and eventually led up to the successful achievement of their design.

Colonel Gunter was ready and willing to further the king's escape by all means in his power; he had been absent upon some very important and unpleasant business, involving the risk of sequestration of his estate, and did not get home until after Lord Wilmot's arrival.

His wife met him at the door, and informed him that there was in the parlour "a Devonshire gentleman," sent by Mr. Hyde, upon business which none but he—Colonel Gunter—could decide.

The colonel, somewhat puzzled by this mysterious communication, entered the parlour after his wife, and there found the "Devonshire gentleman," and his cousin, Thomas Gunter, seated upon either side of the fire.

Lord Wilmot, with necessary caution, had presented himself as "Mr. Barlow"; but his disguise was indifferent, and inadequate for its purpose in the presence of one to whom he was known by sight, and it speedily became apparent that he was recognised by his host, though Thomas Gunter appears to have been successfully deceived.

Seizing an opportunity, Lord Wilmot took Colonel Gunter aside, and whispered, "I see you know me; do not own me."

And so they went to supper—it being then about nine o'clock—and there was a further alarm, for Lord Wilmot's servant, a man named Swan, who was presumably in his master's confidence, coming in to attend at table, whispered to him to be careful, as there was "my Lord Wentworth's boy Lonie without . . . being taken by Captain Thomas Gunter in distress at Chelsea, and clothed by him to wait upon him." And so, with "Lonie" presumably in attendance, supper passed off with some discomfort and anxiety for Lord Wilmot.

However, the colonel speedily made opportunity for a conference, courteously contrived his guest to his apartment, and

recommending his wife and his cousin to go to bed, as " he was bound to wait upon this gentleman awhile."

Once behind the carefully closed door, Lord Wilmot, with a sigh, let himself out.

" The King of England, my master, your master, and the master of all good Englishmen, is near you and in great distress ; can you help us to a boat ? "

The colonel replied that, for all he lived so near the sea, there was no man living so little acquainted with seafaring men ; but felt himself bound to do his utmost for the king, and faithfully promised to perform his part as far as was possible ; and so bade his guest good-night and repaired to his own rooms, only to find fresh trouble ; for his wife was sitting up for him, eager to learn the nature of his business with " Mr. Barlow." He endeavoured to put her off with the assurance that it did not concern or endanger her ; but intense curiosity and some pardonable apprehension on the part of a wife are not so easily parried. " She was confident there was more in it than so, and enough, she doubted, to ruin him and all his family ; and in that, she said, I am concerned, breaking out into a very great passion of weeping."

Under these awkward circumstances, Colonel Gunter felt that the best plan would be to take her into his confidence ; he slipped out of the room on some pretence, and consulted Lord Wilmot, who agreed ; and so the good colonel returned to his room, " unfolded the business, wiped the tears off his lady's eyes, who smiling said, ' Go on and prosper ; yet I fear you will hardly do it.' "

Thus reassured and contented, Colonel Gunter, after an almost sleepless night, rose very early and rode to Emsworth, about two miles distant, taking with him one John Day, formerly a servant of his, a trustworthy man and a very loyal subject ; but, although Day was related to some seamen of good account, they met with no success.

Lord Wilmot, impatient for news, met the colonel a short distance from the house, and together they rode to Langstone Harbour—a large, shallow expanse of water running round Hayling Island, and the seaport of Chichester—but there they found no better

fortune, so they lunched off oysters and parted for the time, Lord Wilnot going to Mr. Hyde's house at Hambledon, and the colonel to his home, where he induced his cousin, Captain Thomas Gunter, to make further endeavour in various quarters, and to meet him next day at Chichester to report progress.

Progress, however, there was none to report, though Thomas Gunter and a loyal kinsman of his, William Rishton, had done all they could—and time was passing, the king all the while in peril of discovery and capture.

"Then the colonel bethought himself, and conceived the next and best expedient would be to treat with a French merchant, one that usually traded into France, and went to one Mr. Francis Mansell, a stranger then to the colonel, and only known unto him by face, as casually he had met him with several other companies, pretending to give him a visit and to be better acquainted with him. He received him courteously, and entertained him with a bottle or two of his French wine and Spanish tobacco. After a while the colonel broke the business to him, saying—'I do not only come to visit you, but I must request one favour of you.' He replied 'Anything in his power.' Then the colonel asked him if he could freight a bark, for, said he, 'I have two special friends of mine who have been engaged in a duel, and there is mischief done, and I am obliged to get them off if I can.'¹ He (Mansell) doubted not but he could at such a place, at Brightemston (Brighton) in Sussex. The colonel pressed him then to go with him immediately, and if he could effect the business he would give him fifty pounds for his pains, but it being Stowe fair day there (*i.e.*, at Chichester) and his partner out of the way, he could not possibly until the next day, and then he promised him faithfully he would go with him and do his best, so accordingly they agreed. Then the colonel, who had promised to the noble Lord Wilnot an account at Mr. Hyde's house, aforesaid, once in twelve or twenty-four hours at the furthest, repaired thither accordingly, and told him all that was done. The noble lord approved and liked the way wondrous well. It being very late, and

¹ Duelling was strongly opposed by the Puritans, who were then in power; some years later Oliver Cromwell issued very stringent regulations against it.

very dark and boisterous weather, the colonel took his leave. His horse being almost spent, he borrowed a horse of his kinsman, Mr. Hyde, who lent him his falconer's horse . . . which served to carry him home, and the next morning to Chichester. The colonel took his own house in the way, and rested upon a bed for a while, and went unto Chichester, the 10th of October, being a Friday, according to former appointment. The merchant being destitute of a horse, the colonel horsed him upon the horse borrowed of Mr. Hyde, and borrowed one for himself of his kinsman, Captain Thomas Gunter, and went away accordingly, desiring his kinsman to repair to my Lord Wilmot, and to give him the account of his departure from Chichester, in further prosecution of the business, and to remain with him in order to his commands during his absence.

"They arrived to Brightemston by two of the clock that day. The merchant went immediately to inquire; but the seaman he chiefly depended upon was gone for Chichester, who had bargained¹ for a freight there; but, as Providence would have it, he touched at Shoreham, four miles from Brightemston. The colonel persuaded the merchant to send to him to come to him immediately upon earnest business, and I doubted not but that he would come, which took effect accordingly. The colonel had agreed with the merchant to treat with the boatman, being his affair and trade, he to sit by as neuter, promising the merchant to make good and to pay him whatever he should agree for, but which desired to get it as low as he could.

"They stayed there that night, and by Saturday, the 11th of October, by two of the clock, made a perfect agreement, which was that he (*i.e.*, the master of the vessel) was to have £60 paid him in hand before he took them into the boat, for he would know what he should carry or he would not treat, so that the merchant was forced to tell him, himself knowing no more than what the colonel had said to him, of two friends, etc.

"He was to be in readiness upon an hour's warning, and the merchant to stay, under pretence of freighting his bark, to see all things in readiness against the colonel and his two friends' arrival.

¹ Should obviously read, "having bargained."

For the colonel knew not when he should come, but privately promised the merchant to defray all his charges and to give him £50 as aforesaid for his pains, which was afterwards accordingly done ; but this £50, and the £60 paid to the boatman, the king himself, before he went away, took order for, and his order was executed."¹

The various accounts of the interview with Francis Mansell, and the engaging of the vessel, all agree in essentials with that of Colonel Gunter ; King Charles, however, in his narration to Pepys, says, " the merchant only knowing me, as having hired her to carry over a person of quality, that was escaped from the battle of Worcester " ; whereas Colonel Gunter gave Mansell to understand that he was anxious to provide means of escape for two friends of his who had been concerned in a duel. This discrepancy might have been awkward had it come to light. Fortunately King Charles was not called upon to explain the motive in hiring the vessel.

The master of the ship, in whom Francis Mansell had so much confidence, was named Nicholas Tettersell ;² little is known concerning his family and origin. His ship was a small coasting vessel, engaged in the coal trade. There will be something more to say about his subsequent history later on ; at present we find him pledged, upon certain conditions, to convey two apprehensive duellers across the water ; and one of his stipulations was that " he would know what he should carry, or he would not treat "—this being the very point upon which Colonel Gunter intended that both Mansell and the skipper should remain in ignorance. Circumstances, however, were too strong for him.

On the following day—Sunday, October 12—Colonel Phelps went off to acquaint the king with all that had been arranged, while Colonel Gunter and his cousin Thomas and Lord Wilmot, by way of diverting attention from the business, did a little coursing on the

¹ This account—and much that follows—is mainly taken from " Tract No. 5 " in " The Flight of the King " by Allan Lee (1897), pp. 281 *et seq.* This tract is said to be written from the mouth of Colonel Gunter, or Gummer. The use of the third person, varied occasionally by the first, is somewhat confusing, and the style is sometimes obscure ; but it is no doubt an authentic story.

² The name is spelled in a variety of ways in the several accounts : Tattersall, Tettersall, Tattershall, etc. ; but it appears that Nicholas himself spelled it as above.

downs near Hambledon, eventually meeting the king and Phelps as arranged.

The colonel had a sister married to one Thomas Symons, living near Hambledon, and thither they arrived about dusk. Mrs. Symons, in ignorance as to the quality of one of her guests, received her brother and his friends hospitably; but, when they were half-way through supper, in came Mr. Thomas Symons, "who, as it plainly appeared, had been in company that day"; and who was not at first disposed to friendliness in his cups. "'This is brave,' said he; 'a man can no sooner be out of the way but his house must be taken up with I know not whom.'"

Recognising his brother-in-law, however, he welcomed him and his friends.

"Passing round the table and viewing all the company, he said, 'These are all Hydes now'; but, peeping in the king's face, said of him, 'Here is a Roundhead. . . . I never knew you (Colonel Gunter) keep Roundheads' company before.' To which the colonel replied, 'It is no matter; he is my friend, and I will assure you no dangerous man.' At which words he clapped himself down in a chair next the king and took him by the hand, shaking him and saying, 'Brother Roundhead, for his sake thou art welcome,' all the while believing the king to be so indeed, and making himself to be one too as well as he could act it, the king all the while complying with him, to all their admirations."

This is a specimen of the numerous instances in which detection, or at least strong suspicion of some mystery and disguise, threatened the king and his faithful adherents; not that Mr. Thomas Symons would have betrayed him, but, his identity once recognised, the difficulty of preserving absolute secrecy would obviously be much augmented.

However, the king slept soundly at the house that night, and on the following day, preceded by Colonel Gunter, he and Lord Wilmot arrived safely, after some alarms on the road, at the George Inn at Brighton, where, by previous arrangement, Francis Mansell and Captain Tettersell joined them at supper.

And now all the colonel's ingenious tale about his duelling

friends fell to pieces ; for it so happened that the king was known both to Tetterzell and the landlord—by name Smith.

The king's account of the business is as follows : " As we were all sitting together, I observed that the master of the vessel looked very much upon me. And as soon as we had supped, calling the merchant (Mansell) aside, the master told him that he had not dealt fairly with him ; for though he had given him a very good price for the carrying over that gentleman, yet he had not been clear with him ; for, says he, he is the King, and I very well know him to be so. Upon which, the merchant denying it, saying that he was mistaken, the master answered, I know him very well ; for he took my ship, together with other fishing vessels at Bright-helmstone, in the year 1648 (which was when I commanded the King my father's fleet, and I very kindly let them go again). But, says he to the merchant, be not troubled at it ; for I think I do God and my country good service, in preserving the King, and by the grace of God I will venture my life and all for him, and set him safely on shore, if I can, in France. Upon which the merchant came and told me what had passed between them ; and thereby found myself under a necessity of trusting him. But I took no kind of notice of it presently to him ; but thinking it convenient not to let him go home, lest he should be taking advice of his wife, or anybody else, we kept him with us at the inn, and sat up all night drinking beer and taking tobacco with him."

This was a very natural precaution on the part of the king, who would preserve a lively recollection of his disappointment at Lyme Regis, where the skipper's wife dissuaded him from the undertaking. King Charles, however, told his story to Pepys nine-and-twenty years later, and his recollection may have been at fault, for other authorities differ on this point, stating that Tetterzell went home for a bottle of aqua vitæ, that his wife divined his secret, and, so far from protesting, declared that she did not care if she and the children went fasting, so long as the king's safety was assured.¹

The question here arises as to Francis Mansell's knowledge of

¹ See Bates' Chronicle, ed. 1730 ; p. 541.

the king's identity. Both Colonel Gunter and the king himself state that Mansell's services were secured upon a false pretence ; and the king, in the passage above transcribed, obviously alludes to Tetttersell when he says he found himself " under a necessity of trusting him." Mansell's denial to Tetttersell may or may not have been genuine ; but it is not easy to believe that, after his conversation with the king concerning Tetttersell's avowal, he could have remained in ignorance. There is no direct testimony, in any of the narratives, that Mansell was purposely enlightened, by Colonel Gunter or Lord Wilmot, as to the king's identity : it may safely be assumed, however, that from the moment of Tetttersell's statement, and Mansell's subsequent interview with Charles, the merchant was aware of the importance of the business in which he had played a principal part.

Meanwhile Smith, the landlord, who had formerly been one of the Guards of Charles I., had also recognised the king ; and seizing the opportunity when they were left alone together after supper, he kissed the king's hand, and said : " God bless you, where-soever you go. I do not doubt, before I die, but to be a lord, and my wife a lady "—which certainly displayed a keen sense of favours to come, though it does not appear that any such exalted dignity was in store for the worthy Smith. However, he proved himself staunch, and was doubtless rewarded afterwards, in some sort, if not with a peerage.

About four o'clock in the morning the king and Lord Wilmot rode to Shoreham, where the vessel lay high and dry, and climbing on board by means of a ladder, lay down in the small cabin.

At seven o'clock, the tide being high, the little ship, named the *Surprise*, was under way ; and after some preconcerted acting on the part of the skipper and the king, in order to hoodwink the crew of four men and a boy, they steered for the French coast, and landed at Fécamp on October 16, 1651.

Nearly nine years later, when Samuel Pepys, in his capacity of secretary to Sir Edward Montagu, sailed with the fleet which went to bring back the banished king, the diarist has the following entries : " 19 April, 1660. This afternoon came one Mr. Mansell on board as

a Reformado, to whom my Lord did shew exceeding great respect, but upon what account I do not yet know."¹

This was before the fleet sailed from England; and evidently Mr. Mansell accompanied it, for on the return, when landing at Dover, Pepys writes: "I went, and Mr. Mansell, and one of the king's footmen . . . in a boat by ourselves, and so got on shore when the king did," etc.

Subsequently, on October 1 in the same year: "I drank a glass of wine privately (at the Mitre) with Mr. Mansell, a poor Reformado of the Charles, who came to see me."

From the expression, "a poor Reformado of the Charles," it appears probable that this Mr. Mansell was on board the same ship as Pepys when the king returned, under the last clause in Murray's definition of a Reformado (see footnote). Pepys was on board the *Naseby*, and in 1660 the king caused this ship to be renamed the *Charles*, or *Royal Charles*.²

It will be observed that Pepys does not, in any of these allusions, give Mansell's Christian name, so that his identity with Francis Mansell of Chichester is not absolutely certain; it appears most probable, however, that this was Francis Mansell, and that Sir Edward Montagu—whom Pepys styles "my Lord" in anticipation of his subsequent title, Earl of Sandwich—being aware of Mansell's loyalty and zeal in promoting the king's escape in 1651, held him in great respect for this valuable service.

It is, indeed, pretty clear that Charles's prospects of getting away to France had dwindled to the most shadowy proportions when Colonel Gunter so happily bethought him of the merchant of Chichester. Three times his faithful adherents had failed in their scheme, and the news that the king was about had gradually percolated through the inevitable chinks in all such secret enterprises; there

¹ "Reformado. A military term borrowed from the Spaniards, signifying an officer who, for some disgrace, is deprived of his command, but retains his rank and perhaps his pay." ("A Glossary of Words, Phrases, and Proverbs from Robert Nares." "An officer left without a command (owing to the 'reforming' or disbanding of his company), but retaining his rank and seniority, and receiving full or half pay." A volunteer serving in the army (or navy) without a commission, but with the rank or seniority." (Murray's Dictionary).

² "The Royal Navy," by W. L. Flavel, Vol. II, p. 110. The *Royal Charles* was captured by the Dutch in their daring attack in the Thames and Medway, June 12, 1667.

was a reward of £1,000 upon his head, a very potent spur to any disloyal or wavering individual in the neighbourhood. The final escape of the king was, in truth, as Thomas Blount puts it in the title of his tract, miraculous; and it is not easy to see how it could have been achieved but for the intervention of Francis Mansell, who, by virtue of his intimate connection with local seamen, was able at once to place his hand upon the right man, over whom, moreover, he evidently possessed very strong influence, as is indicated by the peremptory recall of Tetttersell from Shoreham, which was immediately obeyed.

It would be pleasant to record that Francis Mansell received immediate and adequate recompense for his loyalty, upon the return of the king; but this does not appear to have been the case. He was, indeed, appointed July 3, 1660, collector of the Customs on wool, leather, skins, etc., in the Port of Southampton, with a salary of £60¹—equivalent perhaps to £230 at the present day. In December of the same year there is the record of one Francis Mansell having petitioned for certain profits—not stated—"For conferring a Baron's title on a gentleman appointed by him, whereby he may repair his sufferings; the place of receiver of fines on penal statutes granted to him having been previously conferred on another."²

In June, 1661, Francis Mansell presented a petition for relief to the king, in which he states that he "was forced to fly for life for being one of the instruments of his majesty's happy escape, and has spent more in solicitation than the £60 per annum which he receives from his small office in the port of Southampton."

This application met with immediate response; on June 29 there appears: "Grant to Francis Mansell of a pension of £200 for faithful services."³

In February, 1662, Francis Mansell petitions to be superseded in his post at Southampton, on account of ill-health.

¹ Cal. State Papers, 1660-1661; p. 141.

² *Ibid.*, p. 488. Francis Mansell states that he had presented some gentleman for a barony, on the understanding that he was to receive a certain sum of money upon the title being conferred. This appears to have been a method adopted for the enrichment of persons in favour.

³ *Ibid.*, 1661-1662; pp. 21, 22.

It is notorious that the pensions which were granted to various persons for their services to the king were by no means always punctually paid, and Francis Mansell was a sufferer in this respect. In April, 1664, he petitioned the king "For relief from the privy seal dormant, the £200 a year granted him from the exchequer being £300 in arrear."

The king appears to have been moved by this appeal, for the entry immediately follows: "Privy seal for £200 to Francis Mansell, as the king's free gift."¹

In the following year this entry appears in the records of the Heralds College—

"Francis Mansell, now of Guildford, Surrey, who provided the ship and with great loyalty and fidelity assisted his majesty's transportation after the unfortunate battle of Worcester; or, three maunches sable, on a chief gules a lion passant gardant or; 14 Feb. 1665. By Walker, Garter."²

Mansell was at the same time permitted to adopt a significant and appropriate crest, *viz.*, a one-masted ship of the period in full sail; flags and pennons, arg. St. George's cross gu.; on the stern, gules, three royal crowns or.

(This coat-of-arms, as already noticed, has been erroneously attributed to Sir Robert Mansel.)

It is apparent from this record that Francis Mansell had not previously borne any coat-of-arms: had he done so, the lion on a chief gules would have been added as an "honourable augmentation" only; but here the right to bear the three maunches is also conferred.

The question naturally presents itself: of what branch of the ancient family was this Francis Mansell? In the tracts and other accounts his name is sometimes spelled "Mansel," but orthographic differences are too frequently quite arbitrary, and cannot be relied upon as evidence.

Mansell is first heard of in these records as a merchant of

¹ Cal. State Papers, 1663-1664; p. 352.

² "Grantees of Arms," Har. Soc. Publications. Vol. lxvi., p. 163. Original record at Heralds College, already quoted; see vol. i., p. 467.

Chichester ; but this does not, of course, necessarily imply that he was a native of Sussex.

It is, however, roundly asserted by some writers that he was of Ovingdean Grange, near Brighton, and that King Charles rested at this house before embarking for France.

There does not appear to be any solid foundation for this statement ; the Rev. T. W. Horsfield, in his "History and Antiquities of Lewes," says of Ovingdean : "If on no other account, it is worthy of being mentioned, as the refuge of Charles the Second before his escape to the continent. The house was at that time occupied by Mr. Maunsell (*sic*), who entertained the vanquished king during several days of suspense, which preceded the engagement of Tattersall's coal brig."

This was published in 1827 ; in his "History and Antiquities of the County of Sussex," published eight years later, the writer says : "The ancient manor house, which has been modernised, is worthy of notice, if on no other account, yet as the erroneously supposed refuge of Charles II. for a few days before his escape to the continent." Mr. Horsfield evidently had occasion to alter his views pending the publication of his second book.

In "Ancient and Modern History of Lewes and Brightelmstone," by William Lee (1795), there is a circumstantial account of the concealment of the king at Ovingdean, the house of Mr. Maunsell, "within a false partition" ; but this idea probably emanates from some account of such concealment elsewhere.

Harrison Ainsworth, the novelist, in "Ovingdean Grange," works out the alleged visit of King Charles in great detail with copious accessories of encounters between Roundheads and Royalists, and a suitable accompaniment of love-making. He names the elderly Royalist owner of Ovingdean Colonel Wolston Mansell. Possibly this book has assisted in maintaining the tradition, but it is, like most *quasi*-historical novels, quite valueless as evidence ; the novelist must always be permitted ample licence, and there are almost invariably in such books misrepresentations of facts and more or less glaring anachronisms.

Among the manuscripts bequeathed to the British Museum

by Sir William Burrell (1732-1796), an antiquary particularly interested in Sussex, there is the following note concerning Ovingdean: "Ovingdean consists (March, 1780) of a considerable farm, the property of Thomas Holles Payne Esq., of Red Hill, Surrey; about two-thirds of another farm (the other third lying in Rottingdean) now belonging to Mr. Payne of Patcham, which he lately purchased of the family of Streatfield. . . . When the Geers lived in Ovingdean farm, Charles the 2nd lay concealed here till he had an opportunity of embarking at Brighton for France; his person had such an effect on the good woman of the house that her next child (a very fine boy) was said to be the picture of the King."¹

Here is another story, from which it would appear that Ovingdean Grange (or farm) was in occupation at that time by a family named Geer.

It is certainly possible that Francis Mansell, or someone else of the name, held or leased Ovingdean Grange at one time; the reiterated association of the name with the place is probably not a gratuitous invention; but that Mansell dwelt there, and concealed the king in his house on this occasion, there is not a shred of contemporary evidence. In all the tracts, etc., Ovingdean is not once alluded to, while there are several circumstantial accounts of the King's last journey to the shore, in which Mansell appears as the merchant of Chichester.

In 1665 he is alluded to in the grant of arms as of Guildford in Surrey, and in 1667 we hear of him again in Pepys's Diary: "Feb. 20. . . . So I back by coach to London to Sir Robt. Viner's and there got £100. and come away with it and pay my fees round, and so away with the 'Chequer men to the Leg in King Street, and there had wine for them; and here was one in company with them, that was the man that got the vessel to carry over the King from Bredhemson (Brighton), who hath a pension of £200 per annum, but ill paid, and the man is looking after getting of a prize-ship to live by; but the trouble is, that this poor man, who hath received no part of his money these four years, and is ready to starve almost, must yet pay to the Poll Bill for this pension. He told me several particulars

¹ Burrell MSS., No. 5084, fol. 93 (old numeration).

of the King's coming thither, which was mighty pleasant, and shows how mean a thing a King is, how subject to fall, and how like other men he is in his afflictions."

From this and other allusions already quoted it is obvious that Francis Mansell suffered severely for his loyalty. Compelled to leave Chichester, he probably lost his business there entirely; his pension was greatly in arrear, and after living for some time at Guildford, we find him confiding his difficulties to Samuel Pepys in London—almost ready to starve, as Pepys states, and yet compelled to pay tax on the pension which was not forthcoming. The grant of arms—which probably involved the payment of certain fees at the Herald's College—was but meagre compensation for such deprivations.

Nor is this the end of his troubles: in February, 1667, appears the "Petition of Francis Mansell, merchant, to the King, to permit him to enjoy his pension of £200 a year, stayed four years ago; was outlawed and ruined, and was promised to be made eminent on the Restoration. Captain Tattersall and others instrumental in the same service towards the safety of His Majesty's person have had a similar favour."¹

Immediately ensuing upon this record is the following: "Warrant for continuance of the pension of £200 a year, granted to Francis Mansell, for services, especially in the King's escape from the battle of Worcester, notwithstanding the late order for stay of pensions."²

This warrant would appear to have put matters right, especially if arrears were to be paid. No such thing; only a few months later Francis Mansell petitions: "For a grant of the old prize ship 'Lainseroone,' now at Plymouth, appraised at £180; his pension of £200 a year for his actings towards the safety of his majesty's person has failed, on account of the late wars and troubles."²

This was evidently presented at the time when Pepys met Mansell at "the Leg in King Street," upon which occasion the merchant's story elicited the not uncalled-for reflections of the diarist upon the fickleness of kings.

¹ Cal. State Papers, 1662-1667; p. 325.

² *Ibid.*, 1667-1668; p. 131.

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There is no record as to Mansell's success or otherwise in obtaining the old prize ship ;¹ nor is there, indeed, much more to be learned about his life.

In the Visitation of Surrey, 1662, there is, however, in the pedigree of Quinell (or Quynell), the marriage, previous to 1662, of Francis Mansell with Barbara, daughter of Peter Quynell of Field Place, in the parish of Compton, which is near Guildford. As it is very probable that Francis Mansell, the former merchant of Chichester, was living in Guildford about the time of this marriage, it may reasonably be assumed that it was he who married Barbara Quinell ; and this assumption is confirmed by the Register of Westminster Abbey, from which we learn that Captain Francis Mansell was buried there April 10, 1686, in the cloisters ; and that his widow, Mrs. Barbara Mansell, was buried in the West Cloister, June 13, 1687.²

The Quinell pedigree is as follows—

ROBERT QUYNELL, of Lygh Hill, in ye pish. of Chiddingfold in Com. Surrey, gent. = Elizabeth, dau. and heire of George Hall, of Compton in Com. Surrey, gent.

PETER QUYNELL, of Lygh Hill, in Com. Surrey, gent. = Alicia, dau. and heire of Emory Cranley of Field, in ye pish. of Dunsfold, in Com. Surrey, gent.

PETER QUYNELL, of Field Place in Compton pish. in Com. Surrey, Esq. = Elizabeth, dau. and heire of Edm. Gray of Woolbeding in Com. Sussex, Cleric

PETER, son and heire, æt. 32, an ^o 1662	THOMAS	ELIZABETH, wy. Richard Bickley	BARBARA, wy. Fran. Mansell	BRIDGET JANE	MARGARET ALICIA
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Arms: Azure, a cross between two pales in chief, and as many fleurs-de-lis in base argent.

¹ It appears probable, however, that he did obtain the vessel, and fitted her out as a privateer: for on Jan. 22, 1666-7, one Francis Miskery writes Secretary Williamson: "The Dutch ship laden with iron and wool from Belgium lies there still, but not a ketch has been near for six weeks. Sent for Capt. Mansell's privateer, but she lacks her sails" (Cal. State Papers, 1666-1667; p. 470). The date of Francis Mansell's application for the ship is vague—1667?—and may have been earlier.

² Westminster Abbey Registers (Har. Soc. Publications). Vol. x.; pp. 216, 218.

Mansell is not previously alluded to as "Captain," but in a footnote under the entry in the Register the following appears: "His will, as of St. Margaret's, Westminster, Gent., dated 16 June 1685, was proved 6 May 1686, by the relict Barbara. His children were Charles, Francis, Elizabeth, Barbara, Frances, Anne, Mary, William, and Rachel, all in their minority. He held a pension of £200 a year from King Charles II. for the lives of himself and wife, and his sons Charles and Francis."

This will has been verified at Somerset House. The testator firstly leaves all his real and personal estate to Barbara his wife, whom he names as sole executrix. After her death, he leaves to his son Charles £100 "to be paid yearly and every year out of the annuity rent or pension of £200 per annum which his late majesty King Charles the Second of glorious memory was graciously pleased to grant unto me, my executors and assigns for the term of minority in years, if Barbara my said wife, Charles and Francis my sons, or any or either of them should so long live (my said son Charles paying all fees costs and charges for the receipt of the said annuity as by the grant thereof under the Great Seal of England bearing date on or about the 18th July in the 29th year of his said Majesty's reign) relation being thereunto had more fully and at large as it doth and may appear."

After his wife's death, if Charles is still living, he leaves £12 10s. od. yearly to Francis out of the annuity; after Charles's death, £100 a year to Francis; to each of his children, Elizabeth, Barbara, Frances, Anne, Mary, William, and Rachel £12 10s. od. yearly out of the annuity, "if his Majesty's said grant shall so long continue"; in case of the death of any of these, the said sums to be equally divided among the remainder.

The Royal Warrant under the Great Seal, above alluded to, is dated June 22, 1677, not July 18, as stated in the will, and is worded as follows: "Royal warrant to the Attorney or Solicitor General for a great seal for a grant to Francis Mansell, his executors and administrators, of the yearly annuity or pension of £200 for 99 years terminable on the lives of Barbara his wife and Charles and Francis his sons, to be payable quarterly from the first quarterly

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feast which shall happen after the death of said Francis Mansell, said Francis having been very instrumental in the King's preservation after Worcester fight, and having prayed an extension as above of his present pension in view of his numerous family." ¹

The Treasury Books contain records of the payment of Mansell's pension, at very irregular intervals, and it is obviously in arrears. In one instance it was £1,000 behind, and he is awarded £900; this was in June, 1668.

Curiously enough, the last payment entered in the printed Calendars of the Treasury Books in the British Museum, dated December 16, 1684, is to *Mistress* Mansell, £100, from which it would naturally be inferred that Mansell was dead; whereas his will is dated June 16, 1685, and proved May 6, 1686, his burial appearing in the Westminster Abbey Register, as above recorded, April 10, 1686. There does not appear to be any explanation of this anomaly forthcoming, unless it be that Mansell was in such bad health as to preclude his personal application; but he describes himself as sound in mind and body, in the preamble to his will in the following year.

More than twenty years later, on October 13, 1708, Anne, daughter of Francis Mansell, and wife of Morris Rawson, petitioned "for payment of an arrear of pension of £200 a year granted by King Charles II. to her father, mother, and brothers for 99 years, if any of them so long lived." ²

Anne was not entitled to the pension under the warrant of June 22, 1677, which only applies to Barbara Mansell and her sons Charles and Francis. The words "Certificate connected therewith" are appended in the Calendar. It does not appear that the petition was granted.

As is well known to genealogists, a coat-of-arms will frequently afford a clue to the connection of the bearer with others of the same name; the coat adopted by Francis Mansell of Guildford does not, however, give any clue to his derivation. He assumed, it is true, the three maunches sable, but without the chevron, and the field is *or* instead of *argent*; a solitary instance, so far as is known, of this field

¹ Cal. State Papers, Treasury, 1665-1679; pt. 5, p. 195.

² Cal. Treasury Papers, 1700-1714; p. 56.

on a Mansell coat. The Mansels of Cosgrave, Northants. have discarded the chevron, but retain the field argent.

It is not unreasonable, however, to assume that Francis Mansell was originally of Surrey, his connection with Chichester being merely incidental to his business. There were Mansells (or Maunsells) in Surrey from early times, as will presently appear in treating of the family connection with that county; and although there is no direct evidence that Francis was related to them, it may be remarked that in the Sussex Archaeological Society's records the only mention of the name—except that of Sir John Maunsell, *temp.* Henry III., in connection with Bilsington Priory—occurs in an account of the Civil War in Sussex. Here there is naturally some allusion to Francis Mansell—erroneously named Thomas in one instance—and his services on the king's behalf; he is described as “of Chichester,” which was of course at that time his place of business and residence.

It appears probable that, on being compelled by reason of his loyalty, to give up his business at Chichester, he returned to his native county until, after the Restoration, he was given the appointment at Southampton, having previously married Barbara Quinell. Upon relinquishing his post at Southampton, in 1662, he probably once more returned to Surrey, as he is named, in the grant of arms, as “of Guildford”; this was in 1665.

Subsequently he came to London, hoping, perhaps, to obtain the more regular payment of his pension by being on the spot, and possibly also with some business ventures in view, though there is no evidence of this.

There is no record, so far as can be ascertained, of Mansell's domestic affairs in connection with Southampton; his children appear to have been born later.

There is mention of Francis Mansell in a paper written by one Mr. Carleton, a clergyman, and a strong Royalist, in 1657. Carleton addressed two letters, or “representations” to King Charles—then in Bruges—from Brussels, in October of this year. The third letter, in which Mansell's name appears, is also dated in October, but it is not stated whence it was written, or to whom it was addressed; it is

most probably, however, written from Brussels, and the writer commences: "Messages I am to deliver from several persons."

Among these messages is one "From Francis Mansell; to tell the Chancellor that his little friend and the rest are well, and to bring his business if it be done."¹

The inference is that Carleton had received these messages from England. Mansell's message bears the stamp of secrecy in the veiled wording; "the Chancellor" was Edward Hyde, chancellor of the Exchequer, afterwards Earl of Clarendon (created April 20, 1661), who was with the king at Bruges; the identity of the chancellor's "little friend" is not so clear; the "business" no doubt had connection with the various plans successively formed at that time to achieve the king's return and the discomfiture of his enemies.

This Francis Mansell was most probably our friend of Chichester, of whom we here obtain a glimpse in the interval between his valuable assistance in obtaining Tottersell's ship, and his voyage in company with Samuel Pepys on the occasion of the king's return.

The name of Francis Maunsell (so spelled) appears in "A list of persons' names who were fit and qualified to be made knights of the Royal Oak, with the value of their estates. Anno Dom. 1660," at the end of Wotton's "English Baronetage."

Wotton, in a footnote, says: "This order was intended by King Charles II. as a reward to several of his followers; and the knights of it were to wear a silver medal, with a device of the king in the oak, pendant to a ribbon, about their necks; but it was thought proper to lay it aside, lest it might create heats and animosities, and open those wounds afresh which at that time were thought prudent should be healed . . . no list of them was ever published."

There are, in fact, four Maunsells included in this list, viz., Captain Edward Maunsell, Arthur Maunsell, Esquire, and Francis

¹ Cal. of the Clarendon State Papers. Vol. iii., p. 374. There is also a message to the chancellor from Clement Spelman; it may be recalled that Sir John Spelman, of Nantwich, Norfolk, married a daughter of Sir William Maunsell in the seventeenth century; and there is a monument in Nantwich Church to Clement Spelman, who died in 1667. The Clement here mentioned is of the same family; he was a son of the other Clement, and was recorder of Nottingham, and justice of the peace in Nottingham and Norfolk. (See vol. i., p. 84.)

Maunsell, Esquire—all of whom are named as of London and Middlesex—and Henry Maunsell, Esquire, of Carmarthen.¹

Mr. R. G. Maunsell (p. 30) suggests that this Francis was the famous principal of Jesus College, Oxford, but this appears very improbable; it is far more likely that Francis the merchant of Chichester was a candidate for this distinction.

Genealogists and biographers of the Maunsell family have in several instances alluded to the bestowal of this order upon its members with some little flourish of trumpets, and have implied that the recipient was granted a pension of £600 or £800 a year—a very snug income at that time.

There is no warrant for any such assumption; the order was, indeed, a very barren honour, even if it was actually bestowed upon any or all of those who are mentioned by Wotton. It will be noted that his list purports to give the names of persons who were "fit and qualified" to be invested with the new order, together with the value of their estates; the sum which is appended to each name simply gives this value, which was probably required as a guarantee that the individual was of sufficiently good position to be a suitable recipient of the honour. The sums vary from about £600 to ten times that amount.

Moreover, this hypothesis carries with it the reasonable assumption that, the king having notified his intention of instituting such an order, those who desired to obtain it were tacitly, if not explicitly, invited to apply for it; and this assumption is supported by the fact that Wotton's list—which, he informs us, he obtained from a MS. of Peter Le Neve, Norroy king-at-arms—comprises no less than six hundred and eighty-seven names.

Le Neve, in his official capacity, was probably deputed to receive the names of candidates for the honour, but "no list was ever published," which is equivalent to stating that the proposed order was, as Wotton says, laid aside as inexpedient.

It appears probable, as has already been suggested, that the

¹ Edward is probably the son of Sir Francis Maunsell of Middlecombe, by his second marriage; Henry is probably the grandson of Sir Francis; Arthur is most likely the third son of Sir Anthony, who was slain at Newbury; the spelling of the name, Maunsell, in Wotton's (or Le Neve's) list may be disregarded.

"some misconduct in an engagement"; this may have been during what is known as the "Four Days' Fight" with the Dutch in the previous summer, or on the occasion of the Dutch attack up the Thames and Medway in 1667.

In "A Short Account of Brighton, by a gentleman who resided there a month last Summer," which appears in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1766, p. 59, and contains the allusion to Tetttersell given above, it is stated that there is a monument in the church to Captain Nicholas Tetttersell, with an inscription as follows—

"P. M. S.

"Capt. Nicholas Tetttersell through whose prudence valour and loyalty Charles the III^d King of England and after he had escaped the sword of His merciless rebels and his forces received a Fatal overthrow at Worcester Sept 3^d 1651 was faithfully preserved and conveyed into France departed this life the 26th of July 1674."

Following this somewhat awkwardly composed inscription is a very laudatory epitaph in verse, which will not repay transcription; then the record of the death of Susanna his wife, May 4, 1672.¹

It is stated in some of the "Boscobel Tracts" that Tetttersell's vessel, the *Surprise*, was brought up the Thames and moored off Whitehall, in memory of the King's escape in her. There does not appear to be any evidence on this point; but it is a fact that a small vessel named the *Royal Escape*—which is said to have been the new title bestowed upon the *Surprise*—was purchased for the Navy in 1660; she figures, in a list of the Navy as it stood December 18, 1688, as a "smack" of thirty-four tons, carrying eight guns and a crew of ten men.² This small complement might be accounted for as merely temporary, the vessel being under repair at the time; but there is official evidence which points to the deduction that she was then, or soon after, relegated to the position of a "dummy" ship;

¹ Mr. Sawyer, however, quotes the church register, which gives the date as May 6, 1670. Gentlemen who write the history of a place after a month's residence are usually very inaccurate, even in so simple a matter as the copying of a monumental inscription. This gentleman adds, with charming simplicity: "It is likewise said that not very long ago there were some persons in the town who used to boast of their dissent from this prince, who, as Dryden so justly said of him, 'Scattered his Mower's image through the land.'"

² "The Royal Navy," by Sir N. Laird Clowes. Vol. iii, p. 247.

for we find, by a letter or warrant of Charles II., dated August 29, 1672, that in the previous year Nicholas Tetttersell had been, by order of James, Duke of York (lord high admiral), "borne in pay, together with one servant, as captain of our vessel called the Royal Escape: and that he should be allowed pay as captain of a fifth-rate ship, and he and his servant paid with the yard at Deptford"; and furthermore that, on Tetttersell's petition, his son Nicholas was to receive the same favour after his father's death.¹

As the *Royal Escape* could not by any possibility be reckoned as a "fifth-rate"—a small frigate—this is obviously an appointment bestowed in order to give Tetttersell the pay of the rank named, as further reward for his services, in spite of his dismissal in 1667, above recorded.

Paul Dunban, in his "History of Lewes and Brightelmston," says that the *Royal Escape* was after a while moved down to Deptford, where she lay rotting until, in 1691, she was broken up for firewood.

There is a story of one Captain or Colonel Roderick Mansell, who got into trouble in Ireland in 1677-78, by reason of his association with a Presbyterian preacher named Douglas.

On December 26, 1677, Mansell wrote from Belfast to the Earl of Arran,² saying that he had had notice of the arrival of Douglas at Belfast—Scottish "fanatic" preachers were regarded with much suspicion at that time—and "presently had him in my chamber, where after spending some heavy sighs and groans with him, and promising unto him kindness and friendship, and that he would be provided for in this kingdom, provided that he would disclose what was truth to his knowledge of the designs now on foot in Scotland, he did condescend to it. I went immediately and acquainted my Lord Granard³ therewith, and brought him unto his

¹ Cal. State Papers, Dom., Aug. 29, 1672. The letter is given *in extenso* in "The History of Brightelmstone," by J. A. Erredge; p. 131.

² Richard Butler, fifth son of James, first Duke of Ormonde, who was then lord lieutenant of Ireland. Arran was colonel of a regiment of guards, but also held several responsible posts in Ireland under his father, for whom he was deputy during his absence. Butler adopted Arran (or Aran) as his title, having purchased the Isles of Aran, Galway Bay, from Erasmus Smith.

³ Sir Arthur Forbes, created Viscount Granard, Nov. 22, 1675, and Earl of Granard, Dec. 30, 1684. At this time he was marshal and commander-in-chief of the Army in Ireland.

Lordship, and after my Lord had a while discoursed with him, he commanded me to take Master Douglas out with me, and to try what I could get out of him, for he could not gather anything out of him to purpose. I took him to my chamber again, and after renewing my promises unto him, he has related unto me—"That there is a full purpose in the fanatics of Scotland to take the sword in hand, and that the covenant is there renewed. That there is (as Master Douglas calls them) papers past and subscribed throughout the greatest part of the kingdom, and the greatest noblemen and gentlemen therein concerned." . . . Master Douglas doth expect within two or three days to have some letters out of Scotland, whereby to confirm what he has now declared, and much more, and has promised me that if I will but keep him here secret, that he will in short time do very eminent service for God, his king, and country. My Lord Granard would have confined him, but I have prevailed for his liberty, and have taken his parole that he will not stir from hence," etc. This letter is signed Rod. Mansell.

On December 29 Mansell writes again to say that Douglas has not yet received the letters from Scotland, but that he has supplied the names of a number of "fanatic" preachers, the tenor of their discourses, and so forth, and promises to send these particulars shortly. This letter is written in a style much more characteristic, as to spelling, of the period, than the other, which needed but little modernising in this respect; and it is signed *Rich. Mansell*.

Perhaps he possessed both Christian names; it is impossible to doubt that the two letters are from the same person, as the second so obviously refers to passages in the first; but the difference in orthography and signature is curious.

On January 7 Mansell writes from Belfast to the lord lieutenant, enclosing communications from Douglas, who, he says, promises that "besides letters and subscriptions which he will produce unto your Grace, and that under the hands of those your Grace doth least suspect, he will further disclose unto your Grace the whole contrivances of affairs now on foot in Scotland, which shall be greatest service unto his Majesty and the good of the kingdom."

Then follow the enclosures—

“That he (Douglas) would certainly deliver unto his Grace the subscriptions of the nobility and gentry.

“Next that, to confirm them, he would also deliver the several letters both of the nobility and gentry concerned in this design.

“Also what sums of money were collected, and by whom, both in England, Scotland, and Ireland.

“Also produce two letters from two knights out of England concerned herein; and that he had received those letters from the Earl of Quinsburrow’s¹ own hands.

“Also several letters from my Lord Granard. He said that to the best of his memory he had seven of them. . . .

“Also that they had certainly risen in arms in October last, all things being fully prepared; but my Lord Duke Lauderdale advised the contrary.

“Also he bid me be assured and observe that in case that the parliament of England would declare a war against France, that then Duke Lauderdale² would soon leave these kingdoms.

“Also that there was yearly paid unto the chief of the Presbyterian ministers £40 per annum, and that by my Lord Granard unto them, and that there was more of those ministers that came out of Scotland into Ireland; but before they were placed or provided for they behoved to have my Lord Granard’s approbation, and without it were not provided for.”

These enclosures are endorsed by the Duke of Ormonde: “Given me by Lieut. Col. Mansell, the 19 January 1678, and in the presence of the Lord Chancellor and Sir William Flower.”³

The letter is dated January 7; from Ormonde’s endorsement it would appear that both letter and enclosure were delivered by Mansell in person; but “given me” may probably be read as

¹ William Douglas, third Earl of Queensberry.

² John Maitland, first Duke of Lauderdale; he was president of the Scottish Council, and for years held the whole power and patronage in Scotland.

³ Hist. MSS. Com. Report VI.: pts. I. and II., p. 747.

"sent me," an hypothesis which is supported by certain State Papers, as will presently appear.

On January 25, 1678, Lord Granard writes to the Duke of Ormonde: "Colonel Jeffreys will give your Grace a full account of his progress in Scotland, and how affairs stand there. By what I can learn from thence, Douglas is a mountebank and almost as great a knave as his prompter Mansell, who has treated me with so many and so great aspersions that I must fly to your Grace's justice for reparation. I humbly propose that he may be confined till I be heard, which will be as soon as I shall receive your Grace's license to repair to Dublin."¹

On January 29 the Duke of Ormonde writes to the Earl of Arran: "Colonel Jeffreys is returned out of Scotland, and says Douglas is a notorious cheat, and so esteemed by those of all sides there, and by some held to be frantic. . . . He has drawn Mansell into a very ill condition, for I find my Lord Granard so enraged against him as I think he would not be but upon high provocation and proof. . . . I believe upon the credit Mansell gave to Douglas he has spoken too freely of my Lord Granard, which may bring him within some article of war; certain it is Mansell has conducted the whole matter very unskilfully and impertinently."²

On February 5 the Earl of Arran writes to the Duke of Ormonde: "I am sorry Mansell has run himself into such a business as no friend can help him out of if prosecuted; his way must be submission to my Lord Granard that he may avoid a trial. I have the greater compassion for him because I know all the officers of the regiment hate him, and he has little or nothing but his command to live upon."³

On February 13 Sir George Rawdon writes from Lisburn (Londonderry) to Viscount Conway⁴: "Five packets have come over since the receipt of your letter of 15 Jan., which I communicated to Lord Granard, and a few days after Douglas was sent to the Lord

¹ Ormonde MSS. (Hist. MSS. Com.), New Series. Vol. iv., p. 93.

² *Ibid.*, p. 99.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 101.

⁴ Edward, third Viscount and first Earl of Conway.

Lieutenant by Captain Mansell (a Lieut. Col. in the light (?) Brigade), who gave Lord Granard such offensive words and reports that his lordship has sent for some officers here to witness them on his trial at a Council of War in Dublin."¹

On February 20 Lord Granard writes from Dublin to Viscount Conway: "The preacher, Douglas, is still here in prison, but makes nothing good he deposed. Col. Mansell, to whose custody I committed him, was last night cashiered by a Council of War for speaking words to my disparagement, which were that I gave money to the Presbyterian ministers here and that Lord Lauderdale and I held intelligence with them; which, although he denied, I made appear he had spoke, which by the general vote of the Council of War has made him incapable of serving ever in this army."²

On February 23 Sir George Rawdon writes to Viscount Conway from Lisburn: "I suppose you have some account from Lord Granard that Lieut. Col. Mansell is cashiered for some reflecting words that his lordship and Duke Lauderdale were favourers underhand of the Fanatic party in Scotland, which he said he had some cause to suspect by some discourse with Douglas, which was denied by Douglas."³

The impression conveyed by the above correspondence is that Mansell was not fairly treated, being made a scapegoat by Douglas, though the Earl of Arran writes to the Duke of Ormonde, March 2, 1678: "I hear from several that Mansell's crime was so fully proved that nothing could be said for him."⁴ Douglas was obviously a most untrustworthy individual, a mischief-making fanatic, and perhaps on the borderland of mania. Certainly, unless Mansell spoke or wrote further in some other sense than is conveyed by these letters, he was not guilty of the misdemeanour with which he was charged; it is quite clear that he was merely reporting, as in duty bound, the probably wild and unfounded statements of Douglas, who subsequently disclaimed them.

¹ State Papers (Ireland), Charles II. Vol. 338, No. 141.

² *Ibid.*, No. 142.

³ *Ibid.*, No. 143. Sir George Rawdon was Conway's agent and secretary in Ireland.

⁴ Ormonde MSS., New Series. Vol. iv., p. 125.

It is quite conceivable, however, that, Mansell having in the first instance written to Lord Granard, and then, after he had received the papers from Douglas which purported to incriminate Granard, had sent them direct to the lord lieutenant, his action may have been construed by Lord Granard and the Duke of Lauderdale as indicating that he credited and upheld the preacher's accusations; but Lord Granard must surely have had some more precise evidence to justify his statement that, in presence of the Council of War which tried Mansell, he "made it appear" that the latter had actually spoken as alleged. Perhaps the "preacher" rounded on him, and put the words into his mouth—it is a common practice with gossips and mischief-mongers.

Mansell, however, was cashiered, and declared incapable of serving again in "this army," *i.e.*, the army then in Ireland.

He appears, notwithstanding, to have retained his military title, and gone to London, for in the following year there was a good deal of talk about one Colonel Roderick Mansell, who was for some reason selected by the conspiracy-monger, Thomas Dangerfield, as a tool in one of his numerous plots.

Dangerfield was an unscrupulous scoundrel—a thief, a coiner of false money, a perjurer, but withal of attractive personality, capable of influencing those with whom he came in contact.¹ He also professed to be a Catholic; his account of his reception into that Church is not such as would convince anyone who is conversant with the practice of priests upon such occasions, but the pose was useful to him in the furthering of his numerous schemes and plots. He appears to have sometimes adopted the *alias* of Willoughby.

Dangerfield wrote a "Particular Narrative" of his own doings and his trial in connection with the alleged "Popish Plot" engineered by Titus Oates, which is much too profuse for transcription here.

When Dangerfield was in Newgate prison, in 1679, for some of his misdeeds, he was visited by one Mrs. Cellier, who is said to

¹ In the Dict. Nat. Biog. he is described as "Thomas Dangerfield, false witness," about the only title or occupation which could justly be ascribed to him. He shares the distinction in the same work with "Titus Oates, perjurer," whose machinations he professed to be engaged in frustrating.

have been a midwife, of loose character, and who assisted him in various ways; she appears to have been in some degree instrumental in procuring his release, and subsequently, when he was in the Kings' Bench for debts, provided a sum of money with which he was able to compound with his creditors, and so once more regain his liberty; but there was always in her conversations with him a hint of some "great business" in which he was to be chiefly concerned.

Mrs. Cellier introduced Dangerfield to the Countess of Powis, whose husband was then in the Tower by reason of the perjuries of Titus Oates,¹ and who gave Dangerfield to understand that she would require him to undertake some other "business."

The first mention of Colonel Mansell occurs in a list of prominent members of certain clubs; his name is included with those of seven other men of military rank as frequenters of a club held "In Westminster-Market, at a Chandler's House." These lists occur in Dangerfield's narrative.

Then the Countess of Powis bids Dangerfield find out the lodging of "one Colonel Mansfield (for so she said his name was)"; which he did, and sent it by Mrs. Cellier to the Tower; *i.e.*, presumably, to the five Catholic lords, to whom Dangerfield elsewhere alludes as his "great masters." He states later that the colonel's name was really Mansell.

Whether the Countess of Powis actually believed that Dangerfield had either the will or the power to befriend her husband and his fellow-prisoners does not seem to be clear; nor is her motive and that of Mrs. Cellier apparent in their next move concerning Mansell; he seems, on the surface, to have been quite gratuitously dragged into an intrigue—and a very futile and stupid intrigue at that.

¹ The Earl of Powis was one of the "five Papish lords" who were sent to the Tower in connection with the so-called Popish Plot; the others were William Howard (Viscount Stafford), Lord Peter, Lord Arundel of Wardour, and Lord Beillegge. Stafford was beheaded after a trial of which Oates and some of his associates made a very poor show; Lord Peter died in the Tower, and the other three were liberated nearly five years later, when, the true character of Titus Oates having been demonstrated, it was decided that they had been caught in a false scheme. John Evelyn, the diarist, who was present at Stafford's trial, thus, in a strong Protestant, expresses very warmly his surprise and indignation at the unfair treatment of Stafford and the blind acceptance of Oates's inconsistent and incredible allegations.

However, what actually occurred was that the countess and Mrs. Cellier induced Dangerfield to secrete some treasonable papers in Mansell's room, and then, on pretence that some valuables were hidden there in order to evade excise charges, to bring along the Customs officials to search the room, and to take care that they should discover the hidden papers, of which Dangerfield, in order to avoid the risk of his handwriting or that of Mrs. Cellier being recognised, had procured a copy written out by a "scrivener"—the originals remaining with Mrs. Cellier.

Dangerfield, after some difficulty, procured a room in the house where Mansell lodged, and succeeded in secreting the papers in Mansell's room, pinning them at the back of the bed-head.

Then he brought along the Customs officers, in Mansell's absence, and, of course, engineered the discovery of the compromising packet, which was seized, together with some of Mansell's papers, by the officers.

Mrs. Harris, the landlady, who appears to have been an honest and straightforward person, sought out Mansell at some resort near St. Paul's, and informed him of these doings, advising him to get lodgings in the city, and she would forward his belongings to him.

Mansell, however, replied that he was not conscious of any misdoing, and went boldly to the Custom House to demand an explanation. There he was informed that his papers had been returned to his lodgings, and, on repairing thither, found that the incriminating papers had also been returned.

Calling the landlord, Harris, to witness their number and contents, he immediately swore information against Dangerfield before Mr. Justice Warcup, who having also heard the depositions of Mr. and Mrs. Harris and the Customs officials, promptly issued a warrant for the arrest of Dangerfield.

The latter exhibited a good deal of "bluff," and was released on bail, promising to appear before the Council on the following morning; and he kept his promise, but in the lobby he had an unexpected and very unwelcome encounter with one D'Oiley, an officer of the Mint who "wanted" him for false coining. A bitter altercation ensued, which being partially overheard by Chief Justice

North in passing. Dangerfield found himself further arraigned for coining.

When Mansell was called before the Council, the Lord Chancellor asked him : " What correspondencies these were that he held ? Here are papers, says he, of dangerous consequence, such as import of the levying of men, and raising rebellion against His Majesty ; here is also a catalogue of men's names whom you have listed."

Mansell replied that he neither had held, nor ever would hold treasonable correspondence with anyone, and begged to call witnesses ; to which end the Council was adjourned until the following day. Dangerfield again endeavoured to obtain bail, " but Mr. Justice refused my impertinent offer "—scarcely surprising !

Eventually Mansell was entirely exonerated ; and a few days later Sir William Waller—son of the famous Parliamentary general—who was very busy collecting evidence against Catholics in connection with the alleged Popish Plot, and who had for some time had an eye on Mrs. Cellier, on searching that lady's premises discovered the original draft of the papers concealed at the bottom of the meal-tub, where Mrs. Cellier's maid afterwards swore that she had placed them, in accordance with an urgent injunction from her mistress to hide them safely.

And so this mischievous and miserable fiasco became known as the " Meal Tub Plot." Why Colonel Mansell was dragged into it does not appear ; but if, as is practically certain, he was identical with the cashiered colonel in Ireland, it may be that the unscrupulous Mrs. Cellier, knowing him to be already under a cloud hoped that he might be induced to join in some of her intrigues. Mansell, however, behaved on this occasion like an honest man, and was very properly treated as such.

Dangerfield, for his varied and persistent crimes and perjuries, was sentenced in 1685 to stand twice in the pillory, to be whipped at the cart-tail from Aldgate to Newgate, and thence to Tyburn. Whether he would ultimately have survived this terrible punishment is doubtful ; but on his way from Tyburn, in a coach, one Robert Francis, a barrister, shouted some insulting remarks to him. Dangerfield retorted with foul language, and Francis, aiming a stroke or a

lunge at him with a small bamboo cane, thrust him in the eye, inflicting fatal injury. So the perjurer died, and the barrister was subsequently executed for the murder—truly a miserable and sordid business from beginning to end!

We hear of Colonel Mansell later as an agent or informer for the Earl of Shaftesbury. In a letter from the Earl of Ossory (Thomas Butler) to his father, the Duke of Ormonde, dated April 5, 1679, from London, he says: "By the Journals of our House (*i.e.*, the House of Commons) you will be informed how they proceed in the Irish affairs. I wish I had notice what numbers of Popish families are in the town of Dublin, as well as in other seaports of the kingdom. One Mansell, that was cashiered, I find very great with my Lord of Shaftesbury, who employs all manner of creatures to find him matter of complaint. I think it were not amiss if you sent me the reasons for the proceedings against him, as all things of this nature, that I may know what to answer when objections are made."¹

On May 13 Ossory writes again: "To your last relating to discourses of accusations. I am confident my Lord of Shaftesbury does all he can, and employs Trimball and one Mansell that was cashiered in Ireland."²

Mansell appears after he had successfully vindicated himself of the charges trumped up by Dangerfield, to have become a sort of political go-between or adventurer; for we find him in the following year mixed up with the business of the king's alleged marriage with Lucy Walters, who had been his mistress on the Continent about the year 1649. James Scott (otherwise Fitzroy and Crofts), afterwards Duke of Monmouth, was the issue of this intimacy; and in 1680 there was a clamour raised by reason of the allegation that the king had been married to Lucy Walters, and that Monmouth was heir to the throne, instead of James, Duke of York.

There was a story of a certain black box, said to have been left

¹ Ormonde MSS., New Series, Vol. viii. p. 20. Anthony Ashley Cooper, first Earl of Shaftesbury (1621-1683), had made a violent attack upon the Duke of Ormonde and the Duke of Lauderdale for misgovernment in Ireland and Scotland; it was probably without much foundation, and was a political move.

² *Ibid.*, p. 94.

by the Bishop of Durham¹ to his son-in-law, Sir Gilbert Gerard, which upon being opened was found to contain evidence of the king's marriage.

According to an account contained in a letter from Francis Gwyn² to the Duke of Ormonde, April 27, 1680, the king held an Extraordinary Council on April 26 to deal with the story of the marriage; and Sir Gilbert Gerard having solemnly sworn that he knew nothing of any such documents or evidence, the king called upon all the lords of the Council and the judges present to state what stories they had heard on the subject; they all replied that they had heard "nothing but a flying and imperfect report lately discoursed of; only the Earl of Essex acquainted His Majesty that a gentleman (Col. Roderick Mansell) had told him of some particular discourse he had lately heard relating to that matter. His Majesty thereupon commanded the said Earl of Essex and Mr. Secretary Jenkins to examine the said gentleman or any other person named by him in order to trace up the said false report to the first authors and inventors of it."³

The Earl of Essex and Sir Leoline Jenkins were very prompt in their execution of the king's command, for they had Colonel Mansell before them on the same day, April 26. His examination extracted nothing more than a number of vague stories, at second hand, chiefly from one Disney—obviously mere idle gossip. Disney, in his turn, could produce nothing more substantial. At the end of Mansell's examination there is a note: "N.B. He was full of hesitation and his memory failed him." Disney, in reply to the last question put to him, said: "Nobody employed him to make this enquiry, unless it be Colonel Mansell."⁴

Sir Leoline Jenkins, writing to Sidney Godolphin on the following day, says, speaking of Disney: "He pretends he was led to do all he did by his curiosity, but 'tis scarce credible that a man should search as he did without being employed by others. . . . The

¹ John Cosin, Bishop of Durham (1594-1672).

² Francis Gwyn, politician (1648?-1734); M.P. for Chippenham and afterwards for Carden.

³ Ormonde MSS., New Series. Vol. v., p. 311.

⁴ Cal. State Papers, 1679-1680; pp. 447, 448.

corresponding between Col. Mansell and him makes it not the less suspicious, who in his depositions has still his reserves."¹

As Shaftesbury was a strong partisan of Monmouth, and favoured his succession to the crown, and Colonel Mansell was alleged to be in Shaftesbury's employ as an informer, it appears to be quite probable that Mansell employed Disney to ferret out evidence concerning the king's marriage. There is not a scrap of reliable evidence, however, to support the allegation, and the Bishop of Durham's "black box" is held by most people to be an apocryphal embellishment introduced to give colour to the story.

On July 27 in the same year the Earl of Arlington, writing to the Duke of Ormonde (whose son, the Earl of Ossory, was then dangerously ill in London), says: "I opened his (Ossory's) letters from Ireland, and amongst them that your Grace sent with copies of what correspondence is held betwixt the Bishop and Col. Mansell."² So the colonel's correspondence had evidently been placed under espionage; there is nothing to identify "the Bishop."

We hear no more of Roderick Mansell in connection with the Earl of Shaftesbury, for whom very stormy times were in prospect during the three ensuing years: he died in 1683. How much longer Colonel Mansell lived is not known: but it is obvious from the above correspondence that the cashiered colonel in Ireland, the tool of Dangerfield, and Shaftesbury's informer, are one and the same person.

It is stated in some accounts of the family—amongst others in Lieutenant Mansel-Pleydell's and Mr. R. G. Maunsell's genealogies—that Thomas Mansel of Swansea, the son of Philip, sixth son of Sir Edward of Margam, had a son, Roderick, who married in Ireland, and had a daughter Jane. No authority is given for these statements, nor has the evidence upon which they are presumably based been discovered.

If, however, it be true—and it is quite probable—that there was such a son Roderick, and that he married in Ireland, the date of the trouble with Lord Granville, and of the subsequent episodes in

¹ *Journal of the Proceedings of the House of Commons*, 1682, p. 103.
² *Ormonde's Letters to the Duke of Ormonde*, 1682, p. 354.

London in the following year would fit in well enough with the assumption that this colonel was a son of Thomas of Swansea afore-said ; he would be elderly at this time. It is possible that the colonel might have been a younger Roderick, grand-son of Thomas ; but it is not very probable.

Mr. G. T. Clark, in his pedigree of the Mansels of Oxwich and Margam, states that Thomas of Swansea had issue : (1) Edward, (2) Philip, (3) R——, (4) Thomas, (5) Joan.¹

R—— may, of course, stand for Roderick, also possibly named Richard. Unfortunately, Mr. Clark gives no authority for his genealogical details and deductions, beyond a general statement in his preface to the effect that they are based mainly upon a series of genealogies which appeared in the columns of the *Merthyr Guardian*, about the year 1861, and which, he remarks, exhibited "a fulness of detail unusual even in Wales."

The redundancy of unauthenticated detail in Welsh genealogies has already been dwelt upon in this work. These pedigrees do not appear to be now accessible for reference.

However, it may fairly be assumed that this Roderick was directly descended from Sir Edward Mansel, Knight, of Margam, though, in common with some other assumptions, it lacks absolute proof.

There is a curious allusion to the name of Mansel in a letter written by the Princess Anne—afterwards Queen of England—to her sister, Princess Mary. It is dated March 14, 1688, and Princess Anne, alluding to the condition of her step-mother, Mary of Modena, wife of James II., writes : "I cannot help thinking that the 'grossesse' of Mansel's wife is rather suspicious . . . it is very strange that the baths, which, according to the opinion of the most celebrated doctors, should have done her a great deal of harm, have had such a good effect, and so promptly, that she became 'grosse' from the first minute that Mansel and she met after her return from Bath."

The letter is quoted by the author of "Princess and Queen of

¹ "Limbus Patrum Morganix," by G. T. Clark ; p. 495.

England"; the original was written in French, and is headed with the editorial note: "N.B. Mansel est le Roy. Mad. Mansel la Reine."¹

It would be very interesting to know how this pseudonym for her father and stepmother came to be adopted by the Princess Anne, and apparently also by her sister; but some research has failed to discover it. Most probably it is quite fortuitous, a surname just caught up as a safeguard in writing upon delicate and intimate matters.

¹ "Princess and Queen of England," by Mary F. Sanders; p. 173. "Lettres et Memoires de Marie Reine d'Angleterre," edited by Mechtild, Comtesse Bentinck; p. 31.

CHAPTER V

Maunsells of Thorpe Malsor

THORPE MALSOR—originally named Malsover, from the Malsoveres, ancient lords of the manor—lies about two and a half miles west from Kettering, Northamptonshire, in Rothwell Hundred.

"In the lordship (about the year 1720) are about eight hundred acres; in the town thirty-three houses, and about two hundred inhabitants. Here are two brooks, one dividing Thorpe from Cranesley, the other from Rowell (or Rothwell); and over a water running in this lordship between Thorpe and Kettering is Fordbridge. Here are several quarries of a good red building stone. At a small distance from the church is a fine spreading elm, and near it in the way within the town a spring walled in, and on a square stone in the west wall an inscription in Greek signifying 'To the worship of God; Anno Dom. 1597.'"¹

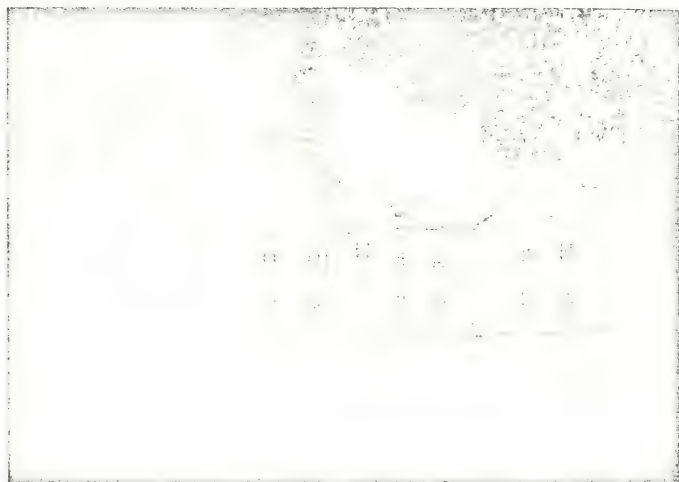
Thorpe is not mentioned in Domesday; in the reign of Henry II. Fulk Malesoveres held one hide and three-quarters of the see of William Avenel; but the devolution of the manor is recorded intermittently, and the next holder mentioned is William de Trussell, 24 Edward I. (1205).

The Trussells held it for many generations, until, about the year 1500, Elizabeth Trussell became sole heiress, through the death of her brother John in infancy. She afterwards married, in 1510, John de Vere, sixth Earl of Oxford, whose grandson, Edward, sold the estate to John Watkyn, in or about the year 1578.

In 1622 it was purchased of John and George Watkyn by John Maunsell of Chicheley, Bucks.

Such is the record supplied by John Bridges, who gives

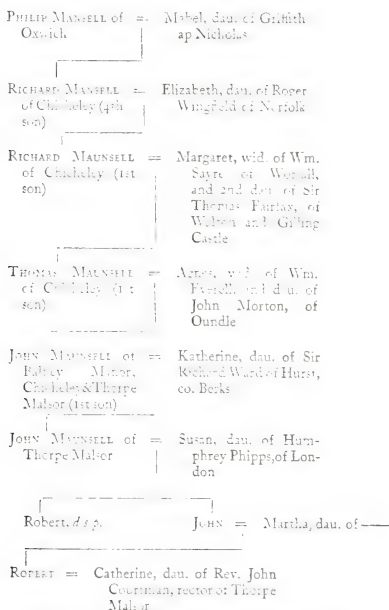
¹ "History and Antiquities of Northamptonshire"; in the MSS. of John Bridges, Esq., by Peter Whalley. Oxford, 1791. Vol. II, p. 77. Bridges was a most accomplished and painstaking antiquary; he died in 1791, and there was much delay in editing and publishing his MSS. A second edition, in five volumes, with many additional illustrations, edited by Thos. Dash, of Kettering, is in the MS. Room of the British Museum—Addit. MSS. 32118-32122.



THORPE MALSOR HALL. ENTRANCE FRONT.

references for all his statements; the account proceeds: "His successor was John his son, upon whose decease it came to Robert Maunsell, Esq., his nephew, who left it at his death in 1716 to Thomas Maunsell, Esq., his uncle, whose relict, Mrs. Catherine Maunsell, the present possessor, inherits it as her jointure, and lives in the manor-house" (about 1720).¹

According to Mr. Robert George Maunsell, in his family history (p. 39), the derivation of John Maunsell, who bought the Thorpe Malsor estate of John Watkyn, is as follows—



¹ See History of the County of Northampton, vol. ii., p. 77.

Catherine, widow of Robert, is here stated to have possessed the estate in dower for her life, and to have died in March, 1728, when it passed, under the will of her husband's uncle, Robert Maunsell, to the latter's cousin, Thomas Maunsell, youngest son of John Maunsell of Ballyvoreen.

This is not by any means in agreement with John Bridges ; the discrepancy will be discussed more fully later on.

The "Victoria County History" has a good deal to say about the Maunsells of Thorpe Malsor.¹

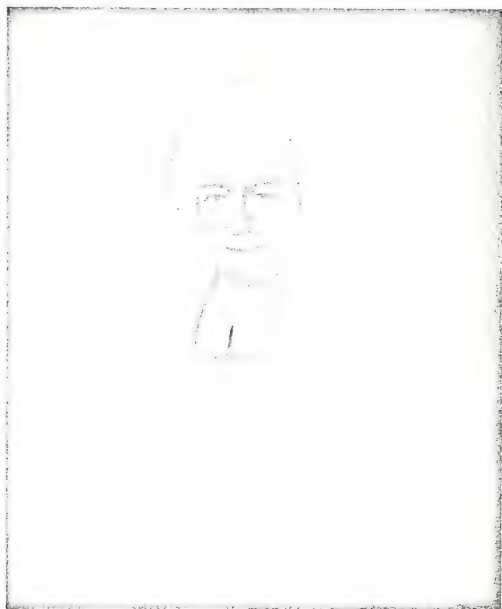
The genealogy there presented agrees with that of Mr. R. G. Maunsell, though no attempt is made to trace the derivation further back than the second Richard of Chicheley, in Mr. Maunsell's account.

The "Victoria County History," however, differs from Mr. Maunsell in respect of the marriage of this Richard, assigning him one Joan, daughter of Thomas Potter of Newport Pagnell, Bucks, instead of Margaret, daughter of Sir Thomas Fairfax of Walton and Gilling Castle, and widow of William Sayre of Worsall.²

It is true that Margaret, second daughter of Sir Thomas Fairfax, was married to William Sayre, of Worsall, who died July 18, 1531, and subsequently, before August 5, 1535, married Richard

¹ The writer of this section, in some introductory remarks, has the following : " In the case of the Maunsells the pedigree maker has been at work, as is shown by the fact that a very famous Maunsell, John Maunsell, the real, chief and talented counsellor of Henry III., has found his way into most of their pedigrees as the descendant of a knight who came over with the Conqueror, and as ancestor of the Earl Maunsell of Marston, the Carmarthenshire Maunsells, and the Maunsells of Ireland and Thorpe Malsor. This, although we have no document throwing light upon his ancestry save his description by Matthew Paris, his contemporary, as the son of a country priest, and the suggestion that he was not born in wedlock. For his descendants, it is enough to say that he was a clerk in priest's orders, and that the inquest taken after his death shows that no heir of his could be found. That a family genealogy compiled in the twentieth century should still exhibit him as a link in the chain of a pedigree which derives the existing house of Maunsell from a cup-bearer to the Conqueror, is enough to show that this branch of English archaeology is still in its childhood." This writer has apparently taken his cue from the account in the Dict. Nat. Biog. Had he been a little more diligent in his researches, he would have been aware of the very different aspect of Maunsell's birth conveyed in the Papal Letter ; he would likewise have realised that it is quite possible that Maunsell was married as a young man, and became a priest after his wife's death ; and he would also have discovered that the inquisition to which he alludes was none concerned with Sir John Maunsell, but with another John, probably his nephew. Maunsell's place in the pedigree has been repeatedly acknowledged in this work to be incapable of actual proof ; but it certainly cannot be disproved by any such superficial and ill-informed strictures as those cited above.

² " V. C. H. Northampton, Genealogical." Vol. ii, p. 229.

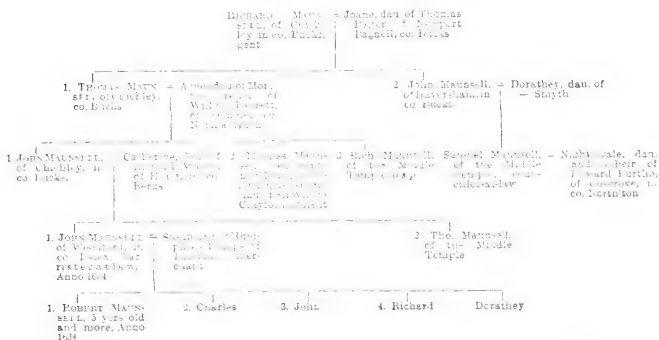


WILLIAM MAUNSELL, OF THORPE MALSOR.
ARCHDEACON OF KILDARE. Died 1808.

Maunsell (or Mansell);¹ but that this Richard was of Chicheley appears to admit of some question.

Worsall, Walton, and Gilling are all in Yorkshire; and Mr. R. G. Maunsell, in a footnote, draws attention to the fact that, on June 27, 1548, Sir Michael Stanhope wrote to Sir Edward North praying him to expedite the lease of the manor of Hothome (Hotham), county York, to Richard Maunsell, and that the lease was granted on July 6 following.²

In the Visitations of Essex, 1634, this marriage of Richard Maunsell with Joan Potter is given in the pedigree declared to the visiting herald by John Maunsell, the living representative of the family, who describes himself as of Woodford in Essex, while the aforesaid Richard is named as of Chicheley.³



¹ "Herald and Genealogist," by J. G. Nicols. Vol. viii., p. 151.

² Cal. State Papers, Dom., 1547-1580; p. 9.

³ Visitation of Essex (Herk. Soc.). Vol. i., p. 446.

The original record of John Maunsell's declaration of his pedigree, at Thorpe Malsor Hall, has the following prefix: "Mem. Sir John Borough, Burroughs; Isaac Gutter, Esq. at Arms, there was a visitation made by Mr. Yorke and Mr. Lalle, and I being absent at that session of Remford, entered my arm and pedigree, to be saved, 23 Sept. 1634, for which I paid 27s. 6d. John Maunsell."

The pedigree as given in the visitation of Essex is as above: Arms, argent, a chevron between three maunches sable (Maunsell).

Mr. R. G. Maunsell has taken an infinite amount of trouble over this genealogy of the Maunsells of Thorpe Malsor, no doubt on account of the close interlacing with it of the Irish Maunsells, of whom he was one: but in the instance of this marriage he is probably in error; there were plenty of Richard Maunsells in Yorkshire, and the lease of Hotham Manor to one of them—almost certainly he who married Margaret Sayre, *née* Fairfax—serves to harden the deduction that Richard Maunsell of Chicheley sought a wife in his own county; indeed, the Heralds' Visitation in this instance cannot be ignored. The identity of this Richard of Yorks may presently be established when dealing with the Maunsells of that county.

There are one or two other points to be noticed in Mr. Maunsell's account.

He places the purchase of the Thorpe Malsor estate with John Maunsell of Woodford, Essex, the second and eldest surviving son of John Maunsell of Chicheley (who married the daughter of Richard Ward, Esq., of Hurst, Berks—he was not knighted until after his daughter's marriage); but this purchase was made in the year 1622,¹ when John of Woodford could not have been of age, for his elder brother, Thomas Ward Maunsell, who died in infancy, was born in 1602.

The estate was undoubtedly purchased by John Maunsell of Chicheley, father of John of Woodford.

This John of Chicheley matriculated at Magdalen Hall, Oxford, October 27, 1592, aged seventeen,² and was admitted to the Middle Temple, October 30, 1594;³ he was born in 1575, and there is a monument to him in Bromley Church, Kent, with an inscription as follows: "Here lyeth the body of John Maunsell, sometime of Chicheley in the county of Buckingham, Esq. He had two sons, John and Thomas, and departed this life 19 Oct. 1625."

John Maunsell must have been a religious enthusiast of the

¹ Feet of Fines, 20 James I.

² Alumni Oxoniensis. Vol. iii. p. 967.

³ Middle Temple Records, Vol. i. p. 11. His death is given as "son and heir apparent" of Thomas Maunsell, Esq., who is recorded in another listing died in 1582: it should read "heir-at-law." John was then nineteen years of age.

Puritan type ; this is apparent in the wording of his will (which is dated July 20, 1621, and was proved February 4, 1626). There is a lengthy preamble to this document, consisting entirely of what can only be termed pious platitudes, with copious scriptural references ; then he proceeds, as was the common practice in wills of this period, to commend—or bequeath, as such testators somewhat illogically and incongruously expressed it—his soul to God ; but he cannot get through this process under another half-page of closely-written matter, with more scriptural allusions. His religion, however, was consistent and practical in the matter of remembering the Church and the poor, who come first among the legatees, with many bequests ; then, after legacies to his brothers Thomas and Richard, his nephews Nicholas and William Conney (or Comry ?), follows a long list of various relatives and friends, to each of whom he bequeaths “ a gold ring of twenty shillings price, with a death's head made or engraved thereon, with this inscription —*Memento Mori*.”

A most depressing legacy ! One cannot help speculating as to the inner sensations of these favoured individuals when the will was read out ; some of them had perhaps been reckoning upon some more substantial token of the testator's regard.

Mr. R. G. Maunsell (p. 77) states that John Maunsell was “ of Balney Manor, Chicheley, and of the Middle Temple, London, Barrister-at-Law. Over the doorway of the manor, evidently on the occasion of his marriage, the following was engraved, ‘ Sobrie, Justi,¹ Pie, 1601.’ A portion of the house is still standing. It is now known as Grange Farm.”

Mr. Maunsell appears to have visited the locality, and to have seen this inscription over the doorway ; it is quite characteristic of John Maunsell to have placed it there ; the writer proceeds :

“ About 1615-1620 he sold the estate to Sir Anthony Chester, Bart., subject to a charge of £2 12 0. per annum, created by one of his predecessors (said to be a Lady Maunsell) for the poor widows and widowers of the parish. This bequest is designated in the Charity Commissioners' Report as ‘ Mansell's Gift.’ ”

¹ It should read *Justi*. *Justi* does not make sense; the three words are adverbs: “ Sobriety (or temperance), piety, justice.”

The "Victoria County History" says: "Part of their old house at Chicheley, which they sold to the Chesters in the time of James I., is still in existence as the Grange Farm."

There is corroboration of these statements in an excellent genealogical account of the family of Chester: "Sir Anthony Chester added considerably to the family estates by judicious purchases in Northamptonshire and Bedfordshire. . . . He also made himself the sole proprietor of the parish of Chicheley, by purchasing from John Mansel [*sic*] Esq. of the Middle Temple the manor house and lands of Balney in Chicheley, which had belonged to the Mansels from time immemorial. The old house at Balney is still standing, but has long been degraded into a farmhouse. It is built of stone, and has over the front doorway this inscription: 'Sobrie. Juste. Pie. 1601.' The historians of Buckinghamshire have failed to identify the Mansels' estate in Chicheley, and therefore have fallen into the mistake of supposing that it was the estate purchased by the Chesters in 1565. But it is certain from the parish registers that the Mansels were resident in Chicheley until after 1607, and that Balney was sold by John Mansel some few years before the date of his will in 1621."¹

The Mansell (spelled *Mansell* in the report) benefaction to the poor of Chicheley is duly recorded in the Report of the Commissioners of Inquiry into Charities, 1842. The question of the identity or existence of "Lady Mansell" may be left for future consideration, in connection with the Maunsells of Bucks; we are now concerned more immediately with the history of the Maunsells of Thorpe Malsor, but it was necessary to discuss these points in respect of John Maunsell of Chicheley.

¹ "Genealogical Memoirs of the Chesters of Chicheley," by R. E. Chester Waters, 1878. Vol. i., p. 112. William Chester married Judith Cave, heiress of large estates in Chicheley. Anthony Chester, his son (born 1566), was knighted in 1607, and created a baronet March 23, 1620. The author's allusion to the historians of Bucks, and their error with regard to the Maunsell and Chester estates, is illustrated in Lipscomb's history (vol. iv., pp. 93, 94); it is there stated that the manor of Chicheley came, by marriage with Judith Cave, "to William Chester, Esq., who, and his ancestors, had purchased a capital mansion here, said to have belonged to Lady Mansell; and who is presumed by Cole to have been another daughter of Cave." Lipscomb is not quite accurate in his quotation from Cole's MS.; the precise wording is: "Query if she is not descended from another dau. of Cave?" which points to the possibility of a Maunsell-Cave marriage in some generation previous to that of Lady Mansell; there does not appear to be any record of such a marriage (*Arch. Aduin. MSS.*, 5339, f. 103).



THOMAS PHILIP MAUNSELL, OF THORPE MALSOR.
Died 1806.

The marriage of John Maunsell of Chicheley with Katherine Ward is stated in several accounts to have taken place January 25, 1601/2; the "Victoria County History" says that they were married at Chicheley, and in a Maunsell pedigree in the "Genealogist" a footnote, referring to this marriage and other data, runs as follows: "Baker's Northamptonshire, vol. ii., p. 132, under 'Cosgrave.' It is probable (though not certain) that the dates of baptisms, marriages, and burials there given are from the Parish Register of Chicheley."¹

There is, however, no record of any such marriage in the Chicheley register, and it is not clear upon what ground the writer in the "Victoria County History" bases his positive assertion. Baker does not give the *place* of the marriage, but he gives the precise date, and also states that Katherine died August 13, 1607, aged twenty-eight years, with other particulars concerning the births, deaths, and marriages of various members of the family about this time, which it is certainly difficult to conceive were obtained from any source other than the Register, or possibly in some instances from monumental inscriptions; but Baker gives no references for these details. The present vicar (1917) of Chicheley states that there is reason to believe that the registers were not carefully kept at this time, and that the marriage may have been omitted; this, however, does not solve the problem as to where these alleged facts were obtained. It would appear more probable that Katherine was married from her father's house at Hurst, in Berkshire. The data given in Baker's work appear, however, to have been accepted by Mr. G. E. Cokayne, and so may be permitted to pass in these pages.

It is interesting that Baker gives a pedigree of Mansel, Longueville, and Biggin, of Cosgrave, in which he derives the Maunsells of Thorpe Malsor from Ralph Maunsell, the benefactor of Tickford Priory in the twelfth century. This is in agreement with Gabriel Ogilvy's genealogy, which stops short at the second Samson, of Chicheley and Turvey.² Baker continues the pedigree: "The early

¹ "Victoria County History," 49, *etc.*, p. 220. "History and Antiquities of the County of Northampton," Geo. Baker; vol. iii., p. 132. "The Genealogist" (New Series), vol. xix., p. 12 (Pedigree of Maunsells, formerly of Chicheley, Bucks, and subsequently of Thorpe Malsor; contributed by G. E. Cokayne, Clarenceux King-at-Arms).

² See Vol. i., App. I.; left-hand column, at foot.

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descents of Maunsell or Mansel from a MS. pedigree in possession of Thomas Philip Maunsell of Thorpe Malsor, Esq."

This pedigree, down to Thomas Maunsell (d. 1582) of Chicheley, is here given. It will be noticed that Baker gives dates when certain persons were living—or rather, the author of the MS. pedigree at Thorpe Malsor gives them—and it must be assumed that they have some solid foundation; but the usual records in which such data should be, at least in most instances, contained have been ransacked in vain for corroboration of these details.

However, this interesting pedigree is here transcribed; it bears evidences of very careful investigation, and is well worth attention as the work of a conscientious and capable genealogist; it is to be regretted that the author's name cannot be affixed to it, and it will therefore be alluded to in these pages as Baker's pedigree.

Some of the steps in Baker's pedigree are confirmed by the terms of certain deeds in a collection which has been acquired by Sir Brien Cokayne, K.B.E., of Exeter House, Roehampton, who has had them carefully transcribed.

In a deed by Ranulf, son of Henry "at the Well," among the witnesses appear William le Maunsel, Richard le Maunsel, and John de Tykethornes (Thickthorn); this John is probably the son of Sampson le Maunsel; he married, according to Baker and Ogilvy, Julia, widow of — Thickthorne; at any rate, the Thickthorne connection is hereby confirmed. The deed is not dated.

In a deed by Simon Brer of Great Linford certain lands are confirmed to Hugh Mansel of Chicheley and Sibyl his wife; the deed is dated March 18, 1313, and, as will be seen in the pedigree, Hugh Maunsell of Berry End in Chicheley is said to have been living in 1333, and his wife Sybil in 1323. There is mention of Hugh Maunsel in several other deeds, the dates of which correspond, so the allusion is no doubt to this same Hugh.

In a deed of Simon Tyle, of Chicheley, he gives to John le Maunsel some lands in Chicheley, and Hugh Maunsell is one of the witnesses: the deed is dated November 26, 1340. This John appears in Baker's pedigree as the son of Hugh of Berry End; apparently Hugh was living in 1340, and later.



CAPTAIN JOHN EDMUND MAUNSELL, R.A.

Died 1860.



THE HONBLE. GEORGIANA CORAYNE,
WIFE OF CAPTAIN JOHN EDMUND MAUNSELL.

In two deeds, dated respectively January 9, 1342, and April 14, 1349, Hugh Maunsell mentions John his elder son, and John his younger son. This confirms Baker's pedigree, in which appear these two Johns, sons of Hugh of Lerry End. Baker may have obtained his date, "living 1349," for the younger John from this latter deed.

In a deed dated November 20, 1351, Richard Ranulf gives lands to John Maunsell the elder, and John his son, which further confirms Baker's pedigree. Roger (son of William in the pedigree?) is also a witness.

In a deed dated February 18, 1370, John the younger son of Hugh Maunsell gives lands to John his son and Joan, his son's wife; this also confirms Baker's pedigree.

On June 16, 1370, John Maunsell the elder grants lands to John his son; the two brothers each had a son John, who are duly inserted by Baker.

In a deed dated March 20, 1397, one of the witnesses is Richard Maunsell of Chicheley, "aged fifty years and upwards, of free condition." This is evidently Richard son of John Maunsell, junior, son of Hugh; Baker states that he was living in 1378 and 1422.

On October 31, 1400, John Maunsell of Wellingborough and Joan his wife give lands to Richard Maunsell of Chicheley. This is the elder son of John junior, son of Hugh; Richard is probably his brother, as in the pedigree.

On March 6, 1424, Richard Maunsell gives all his goods and chattels to Richard Stafford, Robert Clerk, of Newport Pagnell, John Maunsell and Robert Colyer of Chicheley. This may be Richard son of John junior, son of Hugh, and John his son; Baker agrees with this hypothesis.

A deed dated July 20, 1425, confirms Baker, who has John, son of Richard (see above) living, 1422; he may also, by another deed, have been living in 1452.

A deed dated June 13, 1632, confirms the Thorpe Malsor pedigree in respect of the marriage of Dorothy, widow of Humphrey Phipps, with Richard, third son of Thomas Maunsell of Chicheley (*ob.* 1582).

Articles of agreement, relating to the intended marriage

between Thomas Haselwood and Dorothy Maunsell, of Woodford, Essex, widow, dated September 7, 1638, confirm the Thorpe Malsor pedigree.

An indenture dated May 2, 1663, confirms the marriage of John Maunsell of Thorpe Malsor (*ob.* 1677) with Susanna, daughter of Humphrey Phipps, by his marriage with Dorothy Mordaunt, who afterwards married Richard Maunsell and Thomas Haselwood.

In a printed proof of a pedigree in the possession of Lady Maunsell of Burghclere, Berks, William Maunsell of Chicheley, father of Hugh Maunsell of Chicheley and Berry End, is derived as follows—

WILLIAM MAUNSELL of ==
Chicheley, co. Bucks,
3rd son of John Maun-
sell, Provost of Beverley

SIR ROBERT MAUNSELL. =
Knt. of the Shire, Bed-
ford, 26 Edward I.
(1298)

WILLIAM MAUNSELL of ==
Chicheley

HUGH MAUNSELL of Chiche- = Sibil, d. of —
ley and Berry End, 6
Edward II. (1313)

This derivation is very improbable; Mr. W. W. Mansell, it will be recollected, gives John Maunsell, Provost of Beverley, a third son William, but he supplies no authority.

In Baker's pedigree Hugh Maunsell is stated to have been living 7 Edward III. (1333), while in that given above occurs 6 Edward II. (1313); this is probably a misprint for 6 Edward III., as Sir Robert is said to have been living in 1298, and William comes between.

There is absolutely no evidence to show that John Maunsell, Provost of Beverley, had a son William, and it is most probable that he had not. Baker's pedigree is far more convincing.

The pedigree was purchased by Lady Maunsell of Burghclere

(widow of General Sir Thomas Maunsell) from a bookseller, and its authorship is unknown : it is accurate in later details, both in respect of the Cosgrove and the Irish Maunsells, giving very full details of the latter, down to about 1840, so it may be assumed that it was compiled about that period. The alleged derivation from William, third son of Sir John Maunsell, Provost of Beverley, is, as far as can be ascertained, unique, and, as has already been remarked, is probably erroneous ; it may have occurred in some herald's pedigree which has not come under present notice.

From the excellent chart pedigree of the Maunsells of Thorpe Malsor in the " Victoria County History," a copy of which is here given, with some authorities appended from monumental inscriptions in Thorpe Malsor church and elsewhere, the devolution of the Thorpe Malsor estate is readily traced down to the present holder, Captain Cecil John Cokayne Maunsell, R.A.

It is also apparent that John Bridges is wrong in his account of the successive owners of the estate. Mrs. Catherine Maunsell, whom he rightly states held the estate during her lifetime, in 1720, was the widow of Robert, not of Thomas Maunsell.

It has already been remarked that the Maunsells of Thorpe Malsor and those of Ireland are closely inter-related, the possession of the Northamptonshire estate reverting, after the lapse of nearly a century, to the Irish Maunsells, as is clearly set forth in the pedigree.

The several branches which continue to flourish in Ireland will be dealt with more fully in another chapter : meanwhile, since the present holder of the Thorpe Malsor estate derives from Thomas Maunsell of Derryvillane, it will be convenient to give here some account of him and his family.

This Thomas Maunsell was born April 6, 1577, at Chicheley. He matriculated at Magdalen Hall, Oxford, October 10, 1594, being entered as " Thomas Mansell (*sic*) of Bucks, gentleman." ¹ He was admitted to Gray's Inn, August 14, 1599, as " Thomas Maunsell of Chicheley, Bucks, gent., late of Barnards Inn." ² He seems, however,

¹ " Alumni Oxonienses," Vol. III, p. 527.

² Register of Admissions to Gray's Inn, 1599, p. 67.

[illegible]

(SHOWING THE DEVOLUTION OF THE THORPE MALSOR ESTATE.)





THE REV. GEORGE EDMUND MAUNSELL,
RECTOR OF THORPE MALSOR.

Died 20 Oct., 1875.

lord deputy in Ireland, explains the conditions under which he went: "Recommend the bearers, Captain Thomas Maunsell, Captain William Fisher, Nicholas Isaac, and Thomas Pinder, employed by divers gentlemen and merchants of good worth, that are desirous to undertake the whole county of Donegal, and propose not only to build upon the several proportions according to the rules prescribed in the printed articles, but also to erect and fortify a port town near the seaside where they shall find most convenient. The gentlemen employed by them are to take view of the place and report. But since the captains of the forts thereabouts, as Sir Henry Folliot at Ballyshannon, and the rest at Donegal, Donnalong and Castle-ne-do, out of doubt of their own hindrance and loss of entertainments, may haply use some secret and underhand means to dishearten them from their enterprise, he (Chichester) is to take all care to prevent such practices. Whitehall, 11 July, 1609."

This is endorsed by Sir Arthur Chichester: "Of the 10th (?) of July 1609. From the Lords of the Council, in the behalf of certain captains and merchants for lands in the county of Donegal. Delivered by Captain Maunsell and Captain Fisher, the 28 eodem."¹

From the tenor of this letter it is evident that Captain Maunsell and the others named therein were merely acting as agents for certain "gentlemen and merchants of good worth," who were desirous of taking an active part in what is termed the plantation of Ulster.

Sir Arthur Chichester lost no time in acting upon the directions of the Lords of the Council; he issued a separate recommendation, apparently, for each of the persons named in the letter, in the following terms (the English is here modernised):

"Arthur Chichester. By the Lord Deputy.

"We greet you well. Whereas this gent., Captain Thomas Maunsell, is come into this kingdom with intent to take a view and inform himself of the ports and most convenient places for him to settle in, and especially in the Province of Ulster, and some parts of Connaught, to which end he brought unto us letters of recommendation in his behalf from the Lords of his Majesty's most honourable Privy Council which we received this day signifying his Majesty's and their pleasures in that behalf. These are therefore to will and

¹ Cal. State Papers, Irish Series, 1605-1610; p. 346.

require you and every of you his Majesty's officers, Ministers, to take notice hereof, and not only to suffer and permit the said Captain above named with his servants peaceably and quietly to pass by you to and fro as he shall have occasion to view, search, and enquire as aforesaid, but also to be aiding, comporting, and assisting unto him with post-horses and guides from place to place in his travels, and if need require, to give him the best knowledge and furtherance you may in your own means for effecting his desire according to his Majesty's and the Lords' pleasure unto us signified as aforesaid, whereof you and every of you may not fail, as you will answer the contrary at your perils. Given at Melesont, this 28th July, 1609.

"To all Governors, Captains, Mayors, Sheriffs, Justices of Peace, Headboroughes, Constables, and to all other his Majesty's officers and loving subjects to whom it shall or may appertain.

"(Signed) GEO. SEXTEN."

(This letter is given *in extenso*, and in contemporary English, by Mr. R. G. Maunsell [p. 41]. It is not clear at the moment whence he obtained it; it is not to be found in the Irish State Papers. It may, however, be quite confidently accepted as genuine.)

Here, as will be perceived, we have a somewhat different story as to Captain Thomas Maunsell's status in connection with Ireland; he is recommended, not as an agent, but as a principal, seeking the most convenient places to settle in, especially in Ulster, but also in some parts of Connaught; whereas the Lords of the Council obviously had in view the plantation of Ulster alone. This apparent discrepancy may be due to laxity in the wording of the communication of the lord deputy; the letter of the lords must be accepted as conveying the true purpose of Maunsell's mission.

Mr. R. G. Maunsell proceeds: "He sold the estate at Newport Pagnel left him by his father's will, and sailing for Ireland he landed at Waterford and settled at Derryvillane, co. Cork."

Here the impression distinctly conveyed is that Maunsell sailed for Ireland, armed with the letter from the Lords of the Council, in order to settle, not in Ulster or Connaught, but in Cork. This is most probably quite a wrong deduction; Maunsell would naturally, after he had accomplished his mission in the north of Ireland, return to England to report having perhaps meanwhile travelled about and viewed other parts of the island; and, being



THOMAS COCKAYNE MAUNSELL,
OF SPARROWS HERNE HALL.

Died 1887.

attracted by it, subsequently sold his English estate and settled at Derryvillane.

Here he dwelt for more than thirty years, presumably in prosperity, in common with others of the crowd of imported Englishmen who were encouraged to settle in Ireland, and to become possessed of large estates, to the exclusion of Irishmen, who were everywhere hunted and suppressed. Not that any individual blame is to be attached to Thomas Maunsell or others; they took what was offered, perhaps without proper realisation of what was involved for the Irish; it was the English policy which was in fault, the inveterate purpose of retaliation and humiliation after the suppression of the Tyrone rebellion and the flight of the earls.

But a smouldering fire of deep hatred and anger burned in the hearts of the Irishmen, and at length, in 1641, suddenly burst into flame.

The insurrection commenced in Ulster, on the night of October 23, and speedily spread in every direction.

Thomas Maunsell did not escape from the effects of this outbreak; his house was pillaged and burned, and he sustained losses to the amount of nearly £2,500, as sworn to by his son Richard in 1642.¹

Thomas Maunsell married Aphra, daughter of Sir William Crayford, of Great Monyhan, Kent. This worthy couple are said to have had no fewer than twenty-three children, of whom eleven, as shown in the pedigree, survived their father. He died in Gloucestershire, *circa* 1446.

There is nothing much to be said about this large family; the fortunes of Thomas, the eldest son, will be treated of in dealing with the Irish Maunsells; John, the third son, merits some present notice.

This John was born at Knockmore, county Cork, about 1622, as is evidenced by the record of his matriculation at Trinity College.

¹ Mr. R. G. Maunsell, in Appendix No. 54 (p. 126), gives a detailed account of the deposition of Richard Maunsell concerning his father's losses, with other matter incidental thereto. It is an interesting statement, and doubtless a true one, though Mr. Maunsell gives no authority. It is given in full in Appendix I. to this volume.

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Dublin, July 9 1640, at the age of eighteen. He was of Ballyvoreen, county Limerick, and is said also to have had a grant of lands at Ballybrood (or Ballybrody) Drumbane, Ballyphillip, and other estates in Limerick.

He was captain-lieutenant in the Life Guard of Henry Cromwell in 1653¹; and he is also stated to have been wounded at the Battle of Naseby; so here is another story of a Maunsell or Mansell having been there wounded. John Maunsell could not be identical with the Mansell of the romantic story which is related in the Rev. J. Mastin's book, before alluded to; ² he was only twenty years of age at that time, had been born and brought up in Ireland, and had matriculated two years previously at Trinity College, Dublin. The story appears somewhat improbable; it is based upon a statement in a pedigree of Maunsell of Ballybrood, in the possession of H. Farnham Burke, Esq., Norroy king-at-arms; such circumstantial details are frequently inserted in pedigrees, without much solid foundation.

It is, however, certain that a number of Irishmen came over at the commencement of the Civil War, so the story may be true; and it is evident that John Maunsell fought on the Parliamentary side.

In a long list of persons who were granted a free pardon, April 25, 1661, at the instance of the Earl of Orrery, appears the name of Captain John Mansell (so spelled), of Bittall, ³ who is assumed in the "Victoria County History" to be identical with John above mentioned; and it is further stated that he was high sheriff of Limerick in the same year, but no authority is appended. The assumption is quite reasonable; Bittall may have been one of Maunsell's estates in the barony of Clanwilliam, Limerick, where he is said to have possessed several in addition to those already mentioned.

¹ Cal. State Papers, Irish Series (Adventurers for Land), 1642-1650. Henry Cromwell—fourth son of Oliver—was commander of the army in Ireland, a member of the Irish Council, deputy lord lieutenant, and subsequently lord lieutenant. He died in 1654, having lived in retirement on an estate he had purchased in England, after the Restoration.

² See *ante*, p. 175.

³ Cal. State Papers, Ireland, 1620-1662; p. 318.

John Maunsell apparently petitioned, in 1649, to be employed in Ireland, for at the meeting of the Council of State, on June 30, "The petition of Lieut. Jno Mansell is referred to the Leicester Committee, who are to dispatch him that he may forthwith go to Ireland."¹

The Leicester Committee appears to have been dilatory in the matter, for on July 2 the Council of State writes: "The Parliament and this Council have been petitioned by Lieut. John Maunsell, and the House has made an express order therein, which has been offered to you, but as yet without full effect. He is presently to be employed for Ireland, and that service is of great concern to be promoted in the general, and as to particular persons; although we can add nothing further to the order of the House of the 18th ultimo, yet in regard of the consequence of the Irish service, we require that the order of the House be forthwith complied with, and the money therein mentioned paid, so that he may attend the service."²

In the account of Maunsell of Thorpe Malsor, in the "Victoria County History," it is stated that Dorothy, wife of Richard Maunsell of Woodford in Essex (d. 1631), "was probably married, after the death of Richard Maunsell, to Richard Haslewood of Belton in Rutland, and was living in 1645."

There is evidence in support of this in the reports of the proceedings of the Committee for Compounding—though Haslewood is here named Thomas:

"17 Sept. 1649. Order in the Committee for county of Gloucester. John Maunsell of Thorpe Malsor, county Northampton, desired discharge of the sequestration of lands in the parish of Avening sequestered by this Committee from Thomas Haslewood. It appearing that Haslewood held the lands in right of Dorothy, his late wife, who had a life interest therein, and that she died 18 Aug. last, when the profits came to Robert Maunsell, son of the said John Maunsell,³ and to Lieut. John Maunsell, now in the Parliament

¹ *Old State Papers*, Document 17 p. 1050; p. 215.

² *Ibid.*, p. 218.

³ That is, John Maunsell (d. 1677) and Robert (d. 1705). See pedigree.

service under the Lord Governor of Ireland, for the residue of a term of 99 years, the possession and profits of the said lands are to be left to them for the remainder of the term aforesaid; what rent was due from the tenant before the death of Dorothy is to be paid to this Committee, and all subsequent rent to Robert and Lieut. John Maunsell."¹

On December 28, 1650, is the following: "Col. Hen. Ireton to the Committee for Compounding. Lieut. John Mansel [*sic*] came into Ireland with the Lord Lieutenant. His employment since has not allowed him liberty to attend to his own affairs. Please to take cognizance of his business, and expedite his procuring the benefit of his order of Parliament, and consequently his return here to his employment."

On February 25, 1651: "Order on a Parliament Order for paying to Lieut. John Mansell the balance of £620 due for arrears, and £70 for the Duke of Hamilton's diet during imprisonment, ordered him from sequestrations in co. Leicester—that he shall account with the auditor that Col. Wayte shall certify what he knows, and then auditor Sherwin is to report."

Then follows: "Report of Rich. Sherwin that the sum due to him is £587. 12. 6., he having only received £102. 7. 6."

John Maunsell was subsequently, in 1672, accused of being concerned, together with one Captain Walcott, in fomenting discontent among the English residents in Ireland; they resented the Act of Indemnification of the Irish rebels, and, expressing their views too freely, were called to account by the lord lieutenant and Council.

Captain Walcott—who was afterwards executed for taking part in the Rye House Plot—was born in Warwickshire, but his family had removed to Ireland. During the rebellion of 1641 his father was murdered, and the family scattered, homeless, so it was perhaps not unnatural that he should resent any favour being extended to the rebels. Walcott had, however, before this time

¹ Cal. State Papers, Committee for Compounding; vol. i, p. 155. The dissolution of the lands of Avening, Gloucester, is in accordance with the terms of the will of Richard of Woodford.



THE REV. CECIL HENRY MAUNSELL,
RECTOR OF THORPE MAJOR.

Died 17 Oct., 1911.

become a man of substance : he is said to have possessed estates in Clare and Limerick of the value of £700 or £800 a year, and to have been a person of some consideration under Cromwell.

When examined before the lord lieutenant, Walcott at first denied, but afterwards confessed "that he had some conference with Captain Maunsell, bemoaning the condition of the English, and concerning the discontents against the Irish."¹

Subsequently Captain Thomas Cullen gave information before the Privy Council.

"On 31 October Captain Walcott came to my house at Ballyneclogh, co. Clare. He said that the Tuesday before he discoursed with Captain Maunsell of the condition of the English, and the Act of Indemnity, and further that he, Walcott, had expended £200 of his own money, to bring it to this pass, and that there was a great store of wool in Limerick, which they would send for Holland, and bring arms and ammunition from thence."²

On December 14, 1672, the lord lieutenant writes to Lord Arlington (a member of the "Cabal" ministry) :

"The man most probably we can yet discover to have joined with him is one Maunsell, who had been an officer in Cromwell's army, whom Walcott himself owned before the Council he had discoursed with of his discontents, but Maunsell, on his examination in the country before a J.P., denied having seen him these last three years ; but being pressed hard at last confessed to have twice spoken with him of late, but said it was only about borrowing and lending money. These two examinations contradicting one another, I have ordered Maunsell to be sent for to town, to try what we can learn from him."³

On January 7, 1673, Walcott, being examined before the lord lieutenant and Council, said that "his discourse with Captain Maunsell was only about £100 he had borrowed of Captain Maunsell's sister."⁴ He acknowledged speaking to Captain Maunsell in a few

¹ Cal. State Papers, Dom., 1672-73 ; p. 186.

² *Ibid.*, p. 193.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 272.

⁴ John Maunsell had, as shown in the pedigree, six sisters : they were all married.

words something concerning the Irish, and that asking Captain Maunsell the news, he said 'Worse and worse,' and that there was a proclamation for indemnifying the Irish."¹

On January 8 Captain Maunsell, being examined on oath before the lord lieutenant and Council, said that Captain Walcott "asked him what news, to which he answered that he had read the proclamation for indemnifying the Irish, but did not believe there was any great matter in it. . . . A few days later Walcott told him he was going to the Earl of Thomond to be examined, and asked him whether he would be bound for him, which he refused. Being demanded why he had disowned to the Earl of Orrery that he spoke anything to Captain Walcott, but only about his sister's money, he said he so little regarded what Walcott said to him that he did not then remember what he said to him, but since upon recollecting with himself, he remembers and now acknowledges that the said discourse concerning the proclamation passed between them. Being further asked whether, on Walcott demanding what news, he did not answer, 'Worse and worse,' he absolutely denies the remembrance of any such word. Asked whether at his meeting with Walcott he had any discourse with him of the discontents of the English in relation to the Irish, he remembers no such thing, and verily believes that nothing of that nature was discoursed between them."²

The authorities eventually arrived at the conclusion that Walcott "intended mischief and as a preparatory thereto cherished all the discontents he could but that he was prevented before he could form it into a design."³

Both Walcott and Maunsell appear to have prevaricated somewhat discreditably when giving statements upon oath; but Maunsell's denial was seemingly accepted.

The proclamation alluded to was issued by the lord lieutenant on October 21, 1672, in pursuance of orders contained in a letter from the king, of September 28, that "all prosecutions in criminal

¹ Cal. State Papers, Dom., Jan. 7, 1673.

² *Ibid.*, Jan. 8, 1673.

³ *Ibid.*, Jan. 14, 1673.



CAPTAIN CECIL JOHN CORAYNE MAUNSELL,
Late R.A.,
NOW (1919) HOLDER OF THE THORPE MALSOR ESTATES.

causes on account of the rebellion and war were ordered to be stopped, as it was his intention at the first session of the parliament of Ireland to pass an Act of general pardon, indemnity, and oblivion."¹

John Maunsell died in Ireland, November 14, 1685; his will was proved February 6, 1686, in the Prerogative Court of Ireland.²

John, son of the purchaser and first holder of the Thorpe Malsor estate, appears to have been a Nonconformist, and to have lent his house for Congregationalist meetings.

In a "Catalogue of the nonconforming ministers now or late of Northamptonshire who desire licences for themselves, with the places wherein they desire to be allowed," April 11, 1672, appears the name of "John Courtman, John Maunsell's house, Thorp Malsor."

There is also application for a similar privilege at the house of Robert Maunsell, at Newton, Northamptonshire; ³ this, no doubt, is John's eldest son.

On May 25, 1672, a list of the licences issued includes the name of John Courtman, to hold services in the house of John Maunsell at Thorpe Malsor; also permission—though without the minister's name—for the same in the house of *John* Maunsell at Newton; probably a slip instead of Robert.⁴

John Maunsell appears to have been a Puritan of a very aggressive type, for many years previously, in 1639, when he was about five-and-thirty years of age, the following letter was written by one Humphry Ramsden to Sir John Lambe;⁵ it is dated March 20, from "Dr. Isaacson's house at Woodford":

¹ Cal. State Papers, Dom., Sept. 28, 1672.

² "Victoria County History," *op. cit.*; p. 232.

³ Cal. State Papers, Dom., 1671-1672; pp. 305, 690.

⁴ *Ibid.*, May-September, 1672; pp. 62, 63.

⁵ Sir John Lambe (1566-1647), ecclesiastical lawyer. He held sundry offices under ecclesiastical authorities, and was appointed in 1617 to the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln, to examine any of their "peculiarities" in the dioceses of Northampton, Bedford, Huntingdon, and Leicester. He carried matters to such a length against the Puritans, compelling them to attend church on Sundays, and so forth. In 1621 the Mayor and Corporation of Northampton presented a petition to Parliament complaining of these grievances, but the King stopped the proceedings, and knighted Lambe on July 27 of the same year.

"I beseech you pardon my boldness in presuming to write to you, being a mere stranger and of such inferior condition. I could not refrain for that, I have often heard you are very 'orthoxall gent,' zealous for the Church discipline and those ancient ceremonies used in the primitive Church, now practised and enjoyed by the superiors and governors of our own, in imitation of that good old way whereof I being convinced in conscience of the lawfulness of those harmless, laudable and pious ceremonies by reading, example and practice in St. John's Cambridge, but most especially in reverence to God Almighty and obedience to the Church, as I have so God willing I will still observe them, what prejudice soever I can or have suffered. But living lately at Northampton, and doing there as I was accustomed I was generally derided, maligned, hated, and slandered: indeed they wholly set themselves to blast my reputation, and by insinuation did comply with one Mr. Maunsell with whom I lived, who was easily wrought upon, for he was Prymne's¹ chamber fellow in Lincoln's Inn, and I was ever jealous of him, knowing he did not inwardly approve of what I did: and I have heard him wish that these ceremonies had never been thought of, for they are a burden to the consciences of many good men, and that those who are called Puritans are for the most part religious conscionable honest men, and when Prymne suffered condign punishment he said no doubt but he took it patiently and joyfully whereas his adversaries might have quaking hearts. He said I made him disrelished both in town and country for doing that which is generally disliked. He is grown into great acquaintance in the town. He sent the Mayor a lamb at Christmas cost 12s.: is very familiar with Mr. Newton and those who are his especial friends, and ever since has been the further estranged from me, so that I was ever fearful of him, and never durst make this story herein enclosed known, lest it should come to his ears: his wife found it by chance, acquainted him with it, and they could never endure me since, but watched an opportunity to be rid of me: they suffered their servants always to domineer over me, so that seven years in the university seemed not half so long as the short time I lived there: one of his men called me base rascal. I did strike at him, and therefore his master sent me packing immediately, and in a di-graceful manner dragged me out, but he knew full well he could not possibly do the town a more acceptable pleasure. I am sure they did heartily rejoice at it, and now, by the information of those who never affected me, reports he put me away for being in drink which he never objected then; but it is only for my greater

¹ William Prymne (1600-1660), an irrepressible Puritan enthusiast and pamphleteer. In 1637 he was fined £1,000, was pilloried, and, for the second time, had his ears mutilated. This was no doubt the "condign punishment" alluded to in Ramsden's letter.

disgrace sith they had me in the sessions, at which time he repaired to Dr. Clark and gave him to understand I was no such man and I appeal to himself when he did see me in that case. I had not come in tavern or ale house in a quarter of a year; neither ever would if I had lived in Northampton twenty years, because I would not give them the least advantage since they were so fully bent against me; 'for he did drink ergo he is drunk' hath been an argument strong enough to condemn me in Northampton; thus they make no conscience at all to murder me with their mouths, but I commit my cause to Him who knows my heart; and my prayers shall ever be that I may never fall again into the hands of Puritans, for I am sure there is no mercy at all with them. Mr. Forsyth was urgent with me about Michaelmas to send you this story, but I was so fearful that it might come to *Mr. Maunsell's ear* that I durst not let it go abroad which made me take boldness now to trouble you with it.

"My request to you is that you would write to some who know them well to take special notice of them at Easter, and without doubt such may be eye-witnesses that may receive [the sacramental bread and wine] sitting and leaning, and every first Sunday in the month you may find it so, except there has been a sudden change.

"I pray you have special care of your choice if you employ any in Northampton herein, for they are so fettered on a wing that such are difficult to be found who will truly inform without partiality. I only show you a nest of Puritans if you can haply catch them before they fly, and I hope well if you light rightly on them you will not be backward to reduce them to some better conformity, since it is in your power to do it which is the utmost of my desire. Thus beseeching your worship to pardon abundantly my presumptuous boldness, praying God to continue you long, and all other powerful instruments of His glory in His Church, to defend it from malignant refractory spirits who disturbe the peace thereof.

"P.S.—If at any time you write, I pray direct it to be left at Dr. Isaacson's parsonage in St. Andrews Wardrobe, London."

Ramsden appears to have filled some office in Maunsell's household, possibly that of secretary.

This licence for John Courtman—who married John Maunsell's daughter, Katherine, in 1658—to hold Congregational meetings, is somewhat remarkable, for he was at this time, and until his death in 1691, rector of Thorpe Malsor;¹ his son, who succeeded him as rector, could not have been old enough in 1672 to occupy any such

¹ "History and Antiquities of Northamptonshire," by John Bridges. Vol. ii., p. 78.

position as a minister—indeed, he was only thirteen, having been born in 1659.¹

It is evident, from the reference to Robert Maunsell of Newton, Northamptonshire, that Robert had an estate, or at least was located at Newton; after his father's death, in 1677, however, he went to live at Thorpe Malsor, as is evidenced by a somewhat unusual entry in the Thorpe Malsor parish register: "R. M. and family came from Newton to live at Thorpe. 6 Oct. 1677." (Wood Newton lies about fifteen miles to the north-east of Thorpe Malsor; Water Newton about twenty miles in the same direction; there does not appear to be any other Newton in the county.)

Mr. R. G. Maunsell gives (p. 80) a *facsimile* of the royal warrant granting permission to hold these meetings; the original is at Thorpe Malsor Hall. It runs as follows:

"CHARLES R.

"Charles by the Grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, etc. To all Mayors, Bayliffs, Constables, and other Our Officers and Ministers, Civil and Military, whom it may concern, Greeting. In pursuance of Our Declaration of the 15th of March, 1674. We have allowed, and we do hereby allow a Roome or Roomes in the house of John Mansell in Thorp Malsor in Our County of Northampton to be a place for the use of such as do not conform to the Church of England, who are of the Perswasion commonly called Congregationall, to meet and assemble in, in order to their publick Worship and Devotion. And all and singular Our Officers and Ministers, Ecclesiastical Civil and Military, whom it may concern, are to take due notice hereof; And they and every of them, are hereby strictly charged and required to hinder any Tumult or Disturbance, and to protect them in their said Meetings and Assemblies. Given at Our Court at Whitehall, the

¹ The English *Britannia* affords a possible explanation of the apparent anomaly: "During the Protectorate, when it prevailed, some dissenting Protestants, Independents, and Baptists, the position of Congregationallism was really anomalous, in so far as many of its pastors became parish ministers, and were obliged to perform duties which they were expected to administer the sacraments to all and sundry." The year 1672 appears, however, to be somewhat later than this state of affairs, and it is probable that John Mansell, appearing in a Congregationallist register, should apply his permission to hold meetings in a private house. There may, of course, have been dissenting John Mansells of the same family who was thus concerned; this, indeed, appears to be the most probable explanation.

24th day of May in the 24th year of Our Reign, 1672. By His Majesties Command." (The signature is not clear.)¹

In the State Papers for 1673 occurs the following: "Humphrey Maunsell, Chaplain to Viscount Conway, to Viscount Conway. Concerning his attempt to procure at Cambridge a minister for Ballinderry, and, as the person to whom it was offered was, as many were, very unwilling to hear of a living in Ireland, proposing himself for the place, as the taking of it would not cast him out of the College, since no presentation was necessary, the tithes being inpropriate."²

This Humphrey was sixth son of John Maunsell of Chicheley and Thorpe Malsor (d. 1677). His will—in the form of a letter to his father—was proved April 14, 1677. He mentions his brother Henry Maunsell, and his "brother Blundell"; this was Daniel Blundell who married his sister Mary; he leaves £3 to the poor in the parish at Ragley, and £5 to those of Thorpe Malsor. Humphrey was a graduate of King's College, Cambridge: B.A. 1666, M.A. 1670, and afterwards a Fellow;³ hence his mission of obtaining a Cambridge man for the living of Ballinderry. Apparently he contemplated retaining his fellowship while living in Ireland; but there is nothing to show that he went there after all, nor does it appear whence his will was dated.

Captain Robert Maunsell, R.N., fourth son of the Rev. William Maunsell, Archdeacon of Kildare, did some good service afloat and ashore.

In Thorpe Malsor church there is a tablet in his memory, placed there in 1848 by his brother, Thomas Philip Maunsell, Esq.; the inscription is as follows:

"In the vault beneath lie the remains of Robert Maunsell,

¹ The counsels of toleration contained in the royal declaration of March 15, 1672, above alluded to, are based upon the realization "that the forcible courses adopted during the past twelve years to secure uniformity in religion have produced little fruit." Nonconformists and recusants are to be permitted to worship in places of their choice. An exception is made, however, in the case of Puritans, who are ordered to attend the church here enjoined.

² Cf. State Papers, 1673, i. 71-72; p. 50. The letter is dated Dec. 13, from Ragley, Lord Conway's estate in Warwickshire.

³ "Graduati Cantabrigiæ," 153-1583; p. 317.

Esq., a post captain in the Royal Navy, a Companion of the most Honourable Order of the Bath, and a Commissioner of Greenwich Hospital. It pleased God to remove him from his attached and sorrowing relatives and friends, after a short and very severe illness, Aug. 24, 1845, aged 60. As a midshipman of H.M.S. *Maldstone*, in the year 1804, he was most severely wounded by a musket ball through the body, in cutting out some French vessels in Hyeres Bay, in the Mediterranean. For this gallant service he was made Lieutenant, and in 1808 a Commander into H.M.S. *Procris*, of 18 guns, in the East Indies. In 1811, leading the boats of that ship in person, he captured, off the coast of Java, six French gunboats, each mounting one 32 and one 18-pounder carronade on pivots, and manned with upwards of 60 men each. For this, and for having commanded a body of seamen on shore in the reduction of the Island of Java, he was made post-captain into the *Illustrious*, 74 guns, and afterwards C.B. During the peace he commanded the *Alfred*, of 50 guns, and the *Redney*, of 92 guns, in the Mediterranean, and was appointed in 1844 a Commissioner of Greenwich Hospital."

The action, or "cutting out" exploit, in which the boats of the *Procris* were engaged was a very gallant affair; one of those minor incidents of warfare, of which British naval history affords a vast number. "Cutting out" vessels by means of an attack in boats appears to have been an operation almost entirely confined to the British Navy, and many of these episodes afford examples of almost incredible daring.¹ The statement, in the inscription above transcribed, that Maunsell led the attacking boats "in person," is, however, probably erroneous; it was not the usual custom on these occasions for the captain to lead the attack, this dangerous and honourable post being generally held by the senior lieutenant; and this practice was, in all probability, adhered to on the occasion in question. There is, however, as will be seen, some little uncertainty on this point.

¹ One of the most remarkable exploits of this nature was performed by Acting-Lieutenant Jeremiah Coghlan, of the cutter *Viper*, in 1806. He started with three boats to cut out the French gunboat *Cerberus*, two of the boats were, however, lost for want of rowers, but Coghlan, although the Frenchmen were at starting, pursued the *Cerberus* in a small boat, and, after towing about twenty men, and about twenty guns, on board, and towing out the prize. For this feat Coghlan was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant, and died at St. Vincent.

In the year 1811 it was known that Napoleon had in contemplation a grand *coup* in the East Indies—a very ambitious scheme, seeing how full his hands were at home.

The Dutch had, with varying fortunes, held the Island of Java since about the close of the sixteenth century ; their sway was at first only partial, but was gradually extended, in spite of strenuous intermittent resistance on the part of the native tribes and magnates, until, in the year 1811, they held a very large proportion of the island.

In view of Napoleon's aspirations, and to prevent the establishment of strong French influence in the Java Sea, it was determined in this year to despatch a British force to seize and occupy the island.

The expedition sailed from Madras on April 18 ; there were some delays, and it was the end of June when the whole force—consisting of two and twenty men-of-war of various dimensions, and about 12,000 troops, nearly half of which were Europeans—arrived off the mouth of Indramaya River.

Meanwhile a series of brilliant exploits had been performed by some naval officers and men already on the spot, but there is not space to give an account of them, and Commander Robert Maunsell was not concerned in them.

A small British squadron was cruising off Batavia under the orders of Captain George Sayer, of the *Leda*, a thirty-six gun frigate, the *Procris* being one of this squadron.

On July 30 Maunsell, in obedience to orders from Captain Sayer, stood in during the night and anchored near the mouth of Indramaya River.¹ What followed is very clearly related in his report to his superior officer :

“ H.M. Ship *Procris*, off the mouth of Indramaya River, 31 July, 1811.

“ SIR,

“ I have the honour to inform you that in obedience to your orders I proceeded in shore, and at daylight this morning discovered six gunboats with a convoy of forty or fifty prows, close

¹ Indramaya is a distance of about thirty miles from the city of Batavia to the eastward of Krawang Point, the northern extremity of Batavia Roads.

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in with the mouth of Indramaya River, upon which we immediately weighed and ran into $\frac{1}{2}$ less 3 fathoms water, and were then scarcely within gunshot of the gunboats; ¹ finding that our fire made very little impression on them, and conceiving the destruction of this force to be an object of immediate importance, I proceeded to the attack of them with the boats of His Majesty's sloop under my command, together with two flat boats, an officer and twenty men of His Majesty's 14th Regt., and an officer and the same number of men from His Majesty's 89th Regt., and succeeded in boarding and carrying five of them successfully, under a heavy fire of grape and musketry, their crews jumping overboard after having thrown their spears into the boats; the sixth blew up before we got alongside of her. The whole of the convoy, on their first seeing us, hauled through the mud up the river, or they must also have fallen into our hands. The gunboats carry each of them one brass 32 pounder carronade forward, and one 18 pounder aft, with (as appears by the papers found on board) upwards of sixty men each. They are excellent vessels, and in my opinion might be found of considerable service to the Expedition.

"In performing this service I am happy to observe that our loss has been comparatively small, when it is considered that the boats, during the whole time of the advancing, were exposed in the open day to the fire of twelve guns of the calibre I have mentioned and a constant fire of musketry (the gunboat which blew up being of equal force with the rest).

"I cannot conclude without performing the pleasing duty of noticing the very steady and determined bravery of every officer and man employed on this occasion. From Mr. Majoribanks, my first lieutenant, I received that able support I had reason to expect from his general good conduct whilst under my command, and I cannot too strongly mark the high sense I entertain of the gallantry of Lieut. H. J. Heyland of H.M. 14th Regt. and Lieut. Oliver Brush of H.M. 89th Regt.; their keeping up a steady well-directed fire of musketry from the men under their respective commands must have proved considerably destructive to the enemy. I have also to express the satisfaction I felt in the steady behaviour of Messrs. George Cunningham, William Randall and Charles Davies, master's mates, supernumeraries on board the ship for a passage to join the Commander in Chief, and the other Petty Officers, non-commissioned officers, seamen and soldiers; in short the conduct of the whole was such as to make me feel confident that had the force opposed been

¹ "Quarter less three" would mean sixteen feet six inches, and this depth would probably draw nearly this amount of water.

Autumn

Autumn

Autumn



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1995

considerably greater it would have met the same fate. Enclosed I transmit a list of the wounded on this occasion, and have the honour to remain,

"Sir,

"Your very obedient humble servant,

"ROBERT MAUNSELL.

"George Sayers, Esq., Captain of H.M. Ship *Leda*, etc., etc.

"(The wounded comprise nine naval and two military casualties.)"

Such is Commander Maunsell's official report, which leaves nothing to be desired as a faithful account of the exploit : and from the wording of this letter it would certainly be inferred that Maunsell adopted the somewhat unusual course of commanding the boat attack in person.

In the captain's log (or journal), however, there would appear to be a contradiction of this assumption :

"31 July. At anchor off Indramaya Point. Daylight discovered several prows in shore. Discovered six to be gunboats with a convoy of several smaller prows with French colours. Commenced firing, which was returned by the gunboats. Finding them at too great a distance weighed and stood further in. 9. Came to in 3 fathoms with springs on the cable. Commenced firing again, but finding we were not able to reach them, and the water too little to stand further in, sent all boats manned and armed to attack them. 10. Observed all the gunboats commence firing on our boats with round and grape. 10.15. Observed one of our boats board one of the gunboats. 10.20. Observed one of the enemy's gunboats to blow up. 10.40. The enemy ceased firing. Observed our boats to be in possession of five gunboats. At 12 boats returned and came on board : 5 wounded. Found the gunboats to mount each one 32 pounder and one 18 pounder ; manned by from 50 to 60 men each."

Here the impression given is that Commander Maunsell, in accordance with precedent, sent the boats in under the command of Lieutenant Majoribanks, while he watched the enterprise, glass in hand, and noted each step on the spot, recording precisely the time at which he "observed" it. These notes he must afterwards have transcribed *verbatim* in his journal ; it will be noticed that he puts

the number of wounded as five, whereas later in the day, when he wrote his official report, he had ascertained that nine of his own men and two soldiers had been wounded.

The expression, "I proceeded to the attack of them with the boats," which occurs in the official report, should perhaps read, "I proceeded to attack them with the boats"; at any rate, it is improbable that Maunsell led the attack in person; it was a kind of tradition in the Navy that on such occasions the senior or other lieutenant should "have his chance," and, save in unusual circumstances, the captain abstained from active participation in the operation.

It was, however, a very gallant and well-conducted affair, and owed its inception, of course, entirely to Commander Maunsell.¹

Maunsell was shortly afterwards appointed acting captain of the *Illustrious*, seventy-four guns, and during the short time in which he held this command he served with a Naval Brigade of five hundred men, which took part in the reduction and capture of Batavia. A battery of twenty eighteen-pounders was manned entirely by seamen; in Rear-Admiral Robert Stopford's report occurs the following: "The fatigue of the seamen was great, and much increased by being exposed to the hot sun of that climate for three successive days, during which time the fire was kept up with little interruption; but it was borne with their characteristic fortitude, Captain Sayer and the other officers above mentioned (including Captain Maunsell) setting them noble examples."

Previously to the successful boat attack already described, Maunsell is said to have been ordered to convoy a transport with four hundred troops on board from the Strait of Sunda (between Sumatra and Java) to join the expedition assembling off Batavia. The captain of the transport, however, was apprehensive about night navigation, so Maunsell embarked the troops on his own ship, and conveyed them promptly to their destination.²

¹ In O'Byrne's "Naval Biographical Dictionary" it is also stated that Commander Maunsell led the attack in person; but the writer had evidently not compared the captain's log with the official report; it is impossible to reconcile the statement with Maunsell's recorded "observations," obviously made from the deck of his ship.

² This is related by O'Byrne; he does not give any authority for the story.

On September 10, 1811, he took possession, with a division of boats under his orders, of a large sloop-rigged gunboat, mounting four heavy guns and two brass swivels, a Malay-rigged gun-vessel, carrying one twelve-pounder carronade, and a despatch-boat. On this occasion it appears that Maunsell conducted the attack in person, and hence some possible confusion between this and the affair off Indramaya.

Maunsell was confirmed as post-captain on February 7, 1812, and was afterwards appointed to the *Chatham*, seventy-four guns, bearing the flag of Rear-Admiral Matthew Henry Scott, in the North Sea, a post which he held until May 26, 1814.

Then ensued a long period of idleness, until on February 22, 1831, he was appointed to the *Alfred*, fifty guns, in the Mediterranean.

While serving in this ship Maunsell was present at the landing of Prince Otho of Bavaria to assume his newly-conferred position as King of Greece.

Greece had for years been in a condition of anarchy ; from the time of the French Revolution a spirit of unrest had been fomenting, culminating in a struggle which lasted for six or seven years in the endeavour to shake off the hateful rule of the Turks. This was terminated at the Battle of Navarino, on October 20, 1827, when the Turkish fleet was destroyed by the combined fleet of Britain, France, and Russia ; the final settlement, however, still hung fire. By the Protocol of London, March 22, 1829, Greece was constituted an independent monarchy ; but who was to be king ?

Early in 1830 Prince Leopold, of Saxe-Coburg, was offered, and accepted the sovereignty, and his nomination was hailed by the people of Greece as a boon. Leopold, however, mistrusting, with or without justification, some of the conditions attached to the new monarchy, declined after all to assume the position.

Ultimately, in 1832, the three Powers nominated Prince Otho, son of the King of Bavaria ; and early in the following year he was duly installed, Greece being thus finally removed from the Balkan States.

Captain Robert Maunsell was at Malta in the *Alfred* at the end of this year ; and on December 17 Vice-Admiral the Honble. Sir

Henry Hotham, commander-in-chief in the Mediterranean, hoisted his flag on board Maunsell's ship.¹

In January the *Alfred*² sailed for Nauplia (or Napoli),³ at the head of the gulf of the same name, on the eastern side of the Morea, and about twelve miles south of Corinth, there to await the arrival of the new King of Greece.

Then there ensued considerable expenditure of powder by way of salutes, which are all recorded, in accordance with the naval usage, in the log. On January 30, at one o'clock, the Greek flag was hoisted and saluted with twenty-one guns; and at half-past two: "H.M.S. *Madagascar* anchored also a Russian frigate, a French corvette, two Greek corvettes (one bearing the flag of a Rear-Admiral) and thirty-eight sail of transports."

The *Madagascar* (a frigate of forty-six guns) carried King Otho, the other men-of-war formed an escort, while the transports carried an army of 3,500 Bavarian troops, which the King of Bavaria had stipulated that his son should be permitted to import into his new kingdom. The *Madagascar* was commanded by Captain Edmund Lyons, afterwards Lord Lyons, a very distinguished officer, who, after a term of nearly twenty years employed in diplomatic duties, resumed his naval career at the outbreak of the Crimean War in 1854, as commander-in-chief in the Mediterranean.

There was, of course, a vast amount of ceremonial: visits of respect to the king, and of the king to the several admirals, upon all of which occasions many gun salutes were fired, and, when the king went afloat, yards were manned on board the men-of-war.

King Otho landed at Nauplia on February 6, 1833, with a great procession of boats, and the thunder of salutes; and there we must leave him—with the reflection that his present successor (1917) has not shown much friendliness to the Powers which rendered such signal service to Greece in the beginning of last century.

¹ This is recorded for by the captain's log; but there is no mention in the Navy List at the time of Hotham's flagship, and it is not clear upon what ship he had previously flown his flag; he had been appointed to the command of the station in January, 1831, nearly two years previously. The *Alfred* was not the class of vessel ordinarily selected as flagship; a seventy-four gun-ship was usually appropriated for the purpose.

² Nauplia was the old Greek name; Napoli will be found in most modern atlases.

The *Alfred* was paid off during the summer of 1834, and Maunsell remained unemployed until May 13, 1840, when he was appointed to the *Rodney*, of ninety-two guns, and sent to the Mediterranean.

Maunsell arrived on the station in time to take part in the final act of the contest which had been for some years in progress between the Porte and Mehemet Ali, a bold and clever adventurer, who had contrived, by a combination of force and intrigue, to land the Turks in a very awkward predicament. The situation was complicated by the conflicting jealousies of Britain, France, Russia, Austria, and Prussia, each and all of whom had separate ideas as to the manner in which the business should be settled, though all were agreed that the Great Powers should step in and compel a settlement of some sort.

There is not space here to enter upon a detailed account of the various actions in which the British and other fleets took part. Sidon was bombarded and taken on June 25, 1840, from Mehemet Ali's forces; and on November 3 the strong fortress of St. Jean d'Acre was also reduced by the fire of the fleets and occupied by troops and marines on behalf of Turkey.

Acting under Sir Robert Stopford, the admiral commanding, was Commodore Charles Napier, a bluff seaman of the bulldog type. A few days after the fall of Acre, the admiral despatched Napier to Alexandria to take command of the squadron there assembled, among which was Captain Robert Maunsell's ship, the *Rodney*, recently arrived upon the station.

Napier, with the characteristic assurance of seamen of his type, had frequently expressed his views with regard to the diplomatic aspect of the matter, which he felt sure he could handle far better than the legitimate diplomatists; and being shown, at Alexandria, a despatch from Lord Palmerston to Lord Ponsonby, British ambassador at Constantinople, suggesting certain terms of submission to be offered to Mehemet Ali, immediately perceived an opportunity of exercising his skill in this direction.

Accordingly he decided to enter upon direct negotiations with Mehemet Ali; and, as it turned out, he had at hand a very suitable envoy for his purpose.

This was no other than Captain Robert Maunsell, who, during his former commission in the *Alfred*, had come in contact with Mehemet, and was on friendly terms with him.

"Napier decided to invest him with the office of negotiator, and sent him, under a flag of truce, to Alexandria, with a letter to Boghos Bey, the minister and chief adviser of Mehemet Ali. In this letter he strongly urged the Pasha to set at liberty the Syrian emirs and sheiks who were prisoners in his hands, to evacuate Syria, and to restore the Turkish fleet, pointing out the hopelessness of preserving his dominions unless he came to an arrangement with the Sultan, supported as the latter was by the Allies, who, however, in case of his immediate submission, were well disposed to secure for him the hereditary Pashalic of Egypt."¹

This message received a most encouraging reply, and Napier, elated with the initial success of his diplomatic adventure, resolved that he would visit Mehemet Ali in person, and endeavour to clinch the matter. "Meanwhile, Captain Maunsell was despatched with a second letter, in which the Commodore pressed for the immediate surrender of the Turkish fleet as the first step in the proposed arrangement. The reply was to the effect that the Ottoman fleet should be restored and Syria evacuated, so soon as the Pasha received the official and positive guarantee of the advantage that he was to receive in return for these concessions."²

The whole scheme "came off" to admiration, and on November 26 the terms of the Convention were duly set forth and ratified.

It is related that, at their first interview: "The Pasha asked the Commodore for his credentials to act in such an affair; to which the other replied that the double-shotted guns of the *Powerful*, with the squadron under his command to back him, his honour as an Englishman, and the knowledge he had of the desire of the four Great Powers for peace, were all the credentials he possessed."³

¹ "The Life and Letters of Admiral Sir Charles Napier," by H. Noel Williams (1917): pp. 202, 203.

² *Ibid.*, p. 203.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 205.

This naïvely arrogant rejoinder, instead of irritating Mehemet, delighted him, for he was at bottom a good "sportsman"; and so the whole thing was arranged.

Napier was delighted with himself; he commenced his letter to Lord Minto, "My Lord, I do not know whether I have done right in settling the Eastern question"—but in reality he had but little misgiving. He was, of course, severely censured for his unlicensed excursion into strictly diplomatic territory; but eventually his convention was practically adopted; he received a handsome letter of thanks from Lord Palmerston, was promoted to commodore of the First Class, and made K.C.B.

In later years, another naval officer—Admiral Gerard Noel—performed a similar exploit by settling the Cretan question "off his own bat"; he also was knighted, and Lord Salisbury is said to have remarked that a naval officer of Noel's type was a good deal better than any number of Cabinet Councils!

The *Rodney* was paid off between September 20 and December 20, 1843, and Maunsell was not again employed afloat. He had been made a C.B. in 1838, and in 1844 was appointed a commissioner of Greenwich Hospital. He died in the following year, as recorded in the monumental inscription, at the age of sixty.

Thomas Philip Maunsell, who placed the monument and inscription to his brother Robert, was a magistrate and deputy-lieutenant for Northamptonshire, and high sheriff for the county in 1821; he was also colonel in the Northampton Militia, and M.P. for the northern division of the county from 1835 to 1857. He died March 4, 1866, aged eighty-five.

Of his son, William Thomas Maunsell, an obituary notice in the *Gentleman's Magazine* says: "Mr. Maunsell was a truly charitable, kind, and benevolent friend to many in adversity; a well-known, able and ready adviser in cases of necessity; remarkably humble in mind and unassuming in demeanour, and one whose memory will ever be cherished by numbers, both at his native village and in the towns in its vicinity. His death is deeply lamented." Mr. Maunsell was a captain in the Northamptonshire Militia under his father, and a justice of the peace for the county.

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He was interested in bell-ringing, and wrote a pamphlet on the subject not long before his death.

There is at Thorpe Malsor Hall a curious old genealogical account of the Maunsell family, in verse, of which a transcription is here given from "*Collectanea Topographica et Genealogica*."¹ The transcriber's introductory remarks and notes are given as they stand, with some slight omissions, the notes being placed, as in the original, at the end of the verse.

"It is written in a small, cramped, and in some parts almost illegible hand, of the time of Charles I.; but is, I apprehend, the composition of an earlier period. It is followed in the volume by entries made by John Maunsell, barrister-at-law, then of Woodford, in Essex, but afterwards of Thorpe Malsor, commencing with the births, marriages, and burials of the family from 1539 to 1606; a rough genealogical sketch from Sier le Maunsell, which nearly corresponds with the poem, and is verified by references to deeds from s. d. to 24 Eliz., and ending with a pedigree from Richard Maunsell, of Chicheley, in Buckinghamshire, buried 1539.

"These private documents furnish a general corroboration of the legendary tradition of the story: but it is a most remarkable circumstance that almost every fact related, except the accidental murder, is confirmed by historical evidence from extraneous sources, as will be shown in the accompanying notes."

RADIX GENOLOGIA MAUSELLINE DE CHICHELYE.

SIER LE MAUNSELL GENYT APUD THICKTHORNS, WILLIAM, SIMON,
ROGER, UT EST IN TABULA GENOLOGICA THOMA MAUSELLO CONSCRIPTA.

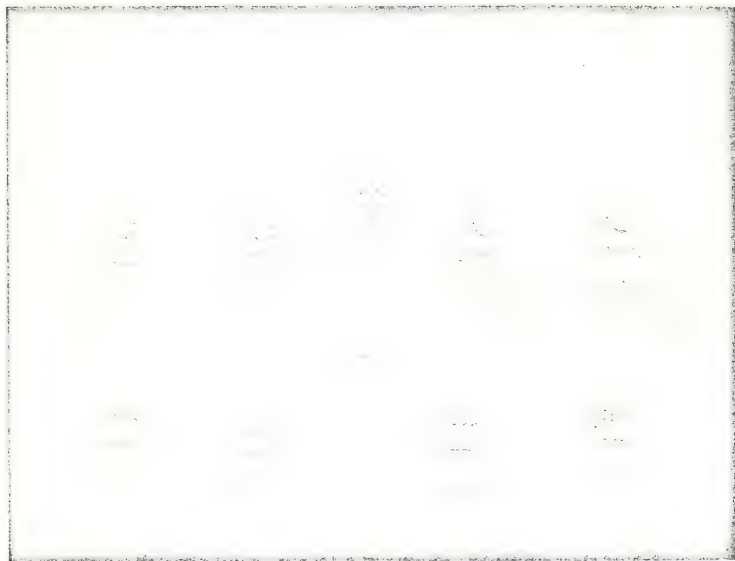
In this table here may you see
How manye generations I owe gone we be.
Some tyme by course we lvyde here,
Wth cark and care troubl'd we weare;
But at ye laste we were soone gone,
And soner forgotten everie one;
Had we not some thinge lette behinde
We had bene worne quite out of minde.
... it may appeare
... in Chicheley were.

¹ Vol. i., pp. 389-394. The work was edited by John Gough Nichols, but this contribution is signed "G. B."



RUSHTON HALL.

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THE COKAYNE LOVING CUPS.
PRESENTED TO THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF SKINNERS
by SIR WILLIAM COKAYNE.

Some richie, some pore, some simple, some wise,
 Some fortun'd to weale, some unfortunate thrise.
 For yt some got othar did spende,
 But blessed be God yt all doth sende.
 Of us sometyme, some knightes made weare,
 And in this coutrye greate rule did beare
 Ontill yt brother of brother was slayne,
 For vayne possession & worldelye gayne.
 Then fortune begane to turne hir wheele
 And caused awayeward all to reele.
 Forthwith did Almighty God beghine
 To punishe & plague us for our synne.
 But yet at ye laste he of his grace
 Agayne in Chichelye did us place;
 In Berye end, & este end, seates he us sente
 That we our sinnes ther mighte repente;
 But when he see it would not be,
 One braunche of us eftesone cut of did he.
 But yet of his merve for to extende
 He preferred the other in Berye end;
 And yt they mighte repente agayne,
 Both land and woods he parted in twayne.
 And for ye one he cut of ye name
 The other he keepte withouten shame.
 Wherefore remember children all
 Yt sinefull lyfe hath had a fall;
 And that God wth mercye his plagues did sende,
 And with redress his mercye did extende,
 That we mighte once our lives amende;
 To him be glory worlde withoute ende.
 Sier¹ the squire of us all, a man of noble grace,
 Above ye corner (as I reed) at Tickthorns² had his place;
 This Sier did at Turvyve take a wife as may appeare,
 For yt thre lovely sisters thyn of Turvyve lulyes weare,
 The eldest Marjone, ye second Ardes, ye 3 Mausell did take,³

¹ Sier is doubtless intended for Scher or Scher, no uncommon name in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, and the orthography is not improbably varied for the purpose of producing the pun excited by its synonyme. Ralph Mansel had a fee of the new feoffment from Gervase Paganell in 14 Hen. II, 1167 (*Lit. Niz.*, p. 147); and by deed *s. l.* with the consent of Cecily his wife, and Scher his son and heir, and for the souls of his father and mother, and his sons Gilbert, Roger, Simon, William, and Hugh, gave his land of "Cuculmes ho" (*qu. where?*) to Tickford priory, near Newport Pagnell, in Bucks (*Mon. Ang.*, vol. ii., p. 912). This grant was made in the presence of, and confirmed by, his lord Gervase Paganell (*ibid.*), and must have been anterior to 1187 (33 Hen. II.), as the general confirmatory Charter from Gervase to the priory, in that year, includes all the man and lands, meadow and pasture, and woods, liberties, and ways, of the gift of Ralph Mansel and Cecily his wife (*ibid.*, p. 911).

² The manor of Tickthornes or Thickthornes, in Chicheley and Hurdmead, near Newport Pagnell, was part of the original endowment of Tickford Priory by Fulke Paganell (*ibid.*, vol. i., p. 686).

³ The "three lovely sisters" were the daughters of William de Alneta, and sisters and co-heiresses of Hugh de Alneta, of Turvey in Bedfordshire and Mildford in Northamptonshire. Of this family an ample account will be found in that exceedingly rare and splendid work, Hilstead's "*Genealogia*," the portion of the History of Northamptonshire now in the

And these thre men wth one accorde ther living ther did make.
 And Arde yt so em ste was ther mindinge to abide,
 Ferste place was uppon ye hill under ye hard wood syde,
 And Mordane yt soe dealye was to thē yt him wth stodee,
 Placed was in ye middle vale under ye selfe same woode,
 And Sier le Maüsell was, accordinge to his will,
 Plac'd nere unto ye toppe o' ye other hill.¹
 This Sier ther a sōne begotte, & Williā² did him name,
 Who did his mother ther succeed inheritinge ye same ;
 For when his mother buried was, & Williā of age pleine,
 Then did his father suffer him at Turvye still remane,
 And he him selfe at Tickethornes blood³ wher was his great delight,
 And yet he had at eche place ye companye of ij knights.
 For as ser Mordane & ser Arde at Turvye dwelt him nere,
 Soe at Tickethornes by him dwelt ser Gedney & ser Baldere ;
 This to be true that I here wrote all ye yt doute I prave
 That ye will take ye paynes to reede ye booke called Domesday.
 Then Will did at Turvye get a sōe sūpō by name,
 Whom Sier ded to Tickethorne take & gave to him ye same,
 For when Sier was dedde and gone, Sampson at Tickethornes dwelte,
 And William like a good father wth Turvye was contente,
 This Sampson did a sōe begett, and John⁴ he did him call,
 Whom he brougte upp in knowledge greate, & in ye vertues all.
 This John, in knowledge of ye lawe who lerned was right well,
 Henrye ye third chose Justice made of Englands I you tell.
 And after ones of ye xij peer, as chronicles witnessse,
 Those he was in ye wholl realme to set at qui'tnesse ;
 Whereof after ensued greate strive, for yt ye barons wente

Press. The matches with Mordane, or Mordaunt, and Andrew are historically correct. William de Alneto gave to Eustace le Mordaunt (son of the Earl of Hereford) with Alice his eldest daughter, a moiety of the lands of his vill of Turvey, to hold by the service of half a fee (Halstead, p. 447), and Hugh de Alneto gave to Richard, the son of his sister Sarah, a moiety of his land of Turvey, free from all service save what belonged to the king for so much of the said fee (*ibid.*, p. 453); which Richard, by the name of Richard de Aconet, sold to his cousin William le Mordaunt, son of Eustace, his share in the vill of Turvey (*ibid.*, p. 453). The existence of the third sister is apocryphal, and the poem is the only authority, if it can be deemed such, for the marriage with Maunsell; which, however, is not unsupported by presumptive evidence. It will subsequently appear that the family certainly had an interest in Turvey; that local spots within the lordship were designated by their name; and the variation in the terms of the grants from William de Alneto the father, and Hugh the son, must not be forgotten. The former expressly includes a moiety of his vill by the service of half a fee; consequently a moiety only of the vill would descend to Hugh; his grant is only of a moiety of his lands, and the remaining moiety of his lands, or quarter of the vill, might pass to Maunsell with the third sister.

¹ Eustace de Mordaunt, for the souls of himself and his wife (Alneto), granted to Caldwell Priory, near Bedford, lands in Turvey abutting upon the way which leads to the Church of Turvey over "Maunsellshull" (Halstead, p. 449).

² William Maunsell availed more than one conveyance of lands in Turvey from Eustace le Mordaunt (Halstead, pp. 14 and 448).

³ Abode.

⁴ This John is an intercalation introduced for the embellishment of the tale. There was, however, a contemporary John Mansell, ancestor of the Lords Mansel (Collins's "Peerage," 1741, vol. iv., p. 266), who was Lord Keeper of the Great Seal, not Chief Justice of England, and it seems the poet was not able to resist the temptation of appropriating him.

Wth ye cōmons agaynst ye kinge in Oxford parlamente.
 This John, then at Thickethorne had ij sons as doth appeere,
 The youngest Willia, ye eldeste was Thomas to him full dere;
 This Thomas then at men's estate his father's parte did take,
 And wth ye cōmons did advise ye barrens warre to make.
 To Nottinghame strayghte waye he wente, as Polidore ¹ expresse,
 Wher at ye last he taken was & put in greute distresse.
 But when ye barrens warre was done & he delivered was,
 Eftesone herto his father's home wth him his time to passe,
 Whom he then fonde married agayne to one yt was full wod,²
 She was some time one Thickethorne's wife, and came of saving Blud.
 Woode - she was for yt Thomas unto his father came,
 For then she had here daughter dere betrothad to Willia,
 Meaninge therby to gett Thickethorne to ye blud agayne
 Of her husband yt some tyme was, by joyning of their twayne.
 Wch thinge she now perceaved well she could not bring to passe,
 For yt it was her hus-bande minde to geve it to Thomas.
 Wherfore she sought meanes all she could this Thomas for to kill,
 And her daughter at Thickethorne's place, such was her wicked will.
 She never lefte until Willia wth him a huntinge wente,
 And ech of them ther stoninge took with his boe readye hente.
 And when the game chanced to come to Thomas some what nye,
 Then ech of them aimed at the game ther arrowes to let flye.
 And Thomas did the game then strike, but stroke he was wth all,
 His brother's arrow did him hitt yt to ye grounde he fall;
 Then 'owe alas,' cried all men ther, 'what cruell chance is this,
 That in pastime of brother's twayne ye one now thus slayne is.'
 And one stryghte way to ther father went & seyd, 'Of yer sonnes twayne,
 Alas (good lord) by cruell chaunce one hathie ye other slayne.'
 'Th' ³ (quoth he) Lord why live I to se this woeful daye;
 Yf this be true, the eldeste is then slayne I dare well say;
 The younger hathie ye make it selfe then hit wherat he shert,
 But yet (by . . .) I assure ye game he never gett.'
 Forthwith his father in greute rage his lande conveyde awaye.
 And gave Thickethorne to Tickford house for his soulle for to pray.
 Soe he in places manye more bestoed as he thoughte goode,
 And little wite his sonne Willia he was wth him soe woode.⁴
 But at ye laste, by meanes of hende, Turvy he lefte his wife,
 And yt Willia should have ye same when she ended her life.
 But Willia . . . unthriftie still, soe sone as his frende wente,
 To Mordane strayghte waye Turvy sold ⁵ & all yt he had, spente.
 And in Chichelye likewise he sold land ⁶ wch cāe by his wife,

¹ Polydore Virgil.

² Of an ill-temper, angry.

³ Then (?)

⁴ Substituting Sampson for John, as the father of Thomas and William, this portion of the narrative is completely authenticated by unquestionable evidence: for William, son of Sampson le Mansell of Turvey, by deed dated on the day of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin (March 25) 15 Edw. I. (1287), sold to William, son of William le Mordun, all his lands in "Chechele" (H. lre ad, p. 457), and though the conveyance of Mansell's land in Turvey is not extant, yet the fact is placed beyond doubt by the license which William le Mordaunt had in 25 Edw. I. (1297), to enclose his wood of "Mansell's-grove," with other lands in Turvey, and convert them into a park (*ibid.*, p. 457).

And shortlye had her nothings lefte, had he not lefte his life,
 But at ye laste when he gone was, little yt did remeane
 Betwene her sōnes Hughe & Williā she parted them in twayne,
 Thus when Mansel wth Thickthornes blud mingled, Thickthornes he loste,
 And Turvye sold then quite awaye, so maried to his coste;
 But thoughte he be frō Turvye thus with arde ¹ worne quite awaye,
 Yet Arde wōd & Maūsel hill ther names beare to this daye,
 And thoughte he have thus Thickthornes loste, yet for remēbance good,
 The piore for him did daylye praye soe long as a bestode,
 In Thickthorne's Chappell mas he songe untill yt it was done,
 And after yt his . . . sayde at church in Chichelye towne.
 Thus Mansel's chere was made awaye, unknowe be of his nāme,
 Save yt when non olde writinge reed ycy chānce . . . on ye sōe.
 Thus women more woked than chylde was never well contente
 Untill she had her purpose wrought, wch we may all repente.
 Thus God justelye his plagues did sende, desyring quit the place,
 As he had done, ther stocke alsoe, save yt he shewed grace.
 But wth justice he moreye shewed, & Hughe in Buriende
 Ferste place he did, thē Williā is placed in Estende;
 From Estrnd nowe ye stocke is gone, & nāe were quite awaye,
 Save yt wher Williā dwelte caled is, Will Mānsle at this daye.

The transcriber, it will be noticed, regards the third sister of Hugh de Alneto, who is here alleged to have married Seher Maunsell, and is assigned by Mr. R. G. Maunsell to Sir Robert the Crusader, as apocryphal, in agreement with the views expressed in vol. i. of this work; ² possibly there may have been a daughter born out of wedlock. The marriage here given is in accordance with that in Gabriel Ogilvy's pedigree, ³ but there is no means of comparing the previous genealogy, as the writer of the poetical pedigree does not go back beyond Seher.

As will be seen in the Thorpe Malsor pedigree, the Maunsells intermarried more than once with the Cokaynes, a family of ancient origin and honourable traditions, of which some account will be of interest.

The family of Cokayne ⁴ can be traced back with certainty to one John Cokayne, of Ashbourne, county Derby, who flourished

¹ Thomas D'Ardres in 49 Edw. III. (1375), conveyed to Robert Mordaunt of Turvey all his lands of Turvey, in exchange for lands at Shephale, Herts (*ibid.*, p. 471).

² P. 53.

³ See Appendix I. to vol. i.

⁴ The name is variously spelled Cokayne, Cokcine, Cockain, Cockayne, Cockaine, Cokain; the term 'Cokcine' has been adopted here, save when referring to records, or writings of members of the family, in which a difference occurs.

about the year 1150. There is, indeed, a tradition that a knight of the name dwelt at Henningham Castle, in Essex, during the reign of William the Conqueror—a tradition which is embodied in some lines by Sir Aston Cokain, addressed to his kinsman, Mr. John Cokaine, of Rushton:

"When at your Pizeon-house we meet sometime
(Though bowling Puritans call it a crime)
And pleasant hours from serious thoughts do steal
With a fine little glass, and temperate Ale,
Talk of Sir — Cokaine, and how near
He was all'd to Will the Conqueror,
I told in his reign at Henningham Castle, and
That truly there his Bow and Arrows did stand,
That there his Sword and Buckler hung, and that
(If they have 'scap'd these times) thare all there."

A note to these lines states that the fact of the existence of these weapons was vouched for by this same John Cokaine, and that he "had antient evidence to prove it."¹

There is some corroboration of this legend, in the fact that there was in Essex a manor of Cokayne, said to be "named after an ancient family that had estates in these parts."² This manor is not precisely located, but it lay in Tendring Hundred, as also did Henningham.

There is a very good account of the Cokayne family extant,³ from which much of this history is extracted.

The main stock of the family is that of Ashbourne, Derby, with offshoots of Cokayne—Hatley, Beds, and of Rushton Hall, Northants. It will be convenient to deal with these separately, giving some account of the more prominent members of each.

There is in Ashbourne church a very interesting series of monuments, covering practically eight generations of Cokaynes, and

¹ "Small Poems of Divers Sorts," written by Sir Aston Cokain: p. 197. This collection was published in 1558; hence the allusion to "bowling Puritans," and the doubt expressed as to whether the old arms had escaped the depredations of the Roundheads. Sir Aston's name is spelled *Cokain* on the title-page; in the British Museum index it is, for some reason, spelled *Cockain*.

² "History of Essex," by Philip Morant: Vol. I., p. 453.

³ "Cokayne Manuscript," by Andrew Edmund Cokayne. The author spells the name *Cokayne* throughout; the two volumes were published in 1869 and 1873, and bear evidence of painstaking research.

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constituting a sectional pedigree of the family in the main line, which, as it affords a convenient key or reference to the monuments, is here given—

SIR JOHN COKAYNE, Knt., of Ashbourne (8th. in succession from John Cokayne, <i>d.</i> 1150); <i>ob.</i> 1372; bur. at Ashbourne	=	Cecilia, relict of Robt. Ireton of Ireton, co. Derby
EDMUND COKAYNE of Ashbourne; slain at the Battle of Shrewsbury, 1404; bur. at Ashbourne	=	Elizabeth, dau. and heir of Sir Richard de Harthall; heiress of Pooley Hall, Warwick
SIR JOHN COKAYNE, Knt., of Ashbourne and Pooley; <i>ob.</i> 1447; bur. at Ashbourne	=	Isabel, dau. of Sir Hugh Shirley, Knt.
JOHN COKAYNE of Ashbourne and Pooley; <i>ob.</i> 1505; bur. at Ashbourne	=	Agnes, dau. of Sir Richard Vernon, Knt., of Hadden Hall, co. Derby
THOMAS COKAYNE of Ashbourne and Pooley; slain <i>in the field</i> , 1488; bur. at Youlgreave	=	Agnes, dau. of Robert Barlow of Barlow, co. Derby
SIR THOMAS COKAYNE, Knt., of Ashbourne and Pooley; <i>ob.</i> April, 1537; bur. at Ashbourne	=	Barbara, dau. of Jno. Fitzherbert of Etwahl and Ash, co. Derby
FRANCIS COKAYNE of Ashbourne and Pooley; <i>ob.</i> 1538; bur. at Ashbourne	=	Dorothy, dau. and heir of Thomas Marrow, Serjeant-at-Law
SIR THOMAS COKAYNE, Knt., of Ashbourne and Pooley; <i>ob.</i> 1592; bur. at Ashbourne	=	Dorothy, dau. of Sir Humphrey Ferrers of Tamworth Castle; <i>ob.</i> 1595

The monuments, taken in chronological order, are as follows—

1. JOHN and EDMUND COKAYNE, father and son; their

effigies are placed side by side on a fine altar-tomb. On the tomb are thirteen shields, displaying various quarterings, which there is no need to give in detail.

2. SIR JOHN COKAYNE (eldest son of Edmund), who died in 1447, and his first wife, Jane (or Joan), daughter of Sir John Dabridgecourt. The tomb is entirely of alabaster, with recumbent effigies of Sir John and his wife.

3. An inscribed slab of alabaster, to the memory of JOHN COKAYNE, who died in 1505. This slab was formerly laid in the floor of the chapel, and one side was completely worn away; the remainder was at one time fixed into the wall, but both halves were subsequently mounted on a plain altar-tomb. Two shields remain, bearing the quartered arms of Cokayne and Harthill, impaling those of Vernon.

(Thomas, son of the last-named John, was buried in Youlgreave church; of whom more presently.)

4. SIR THOMAS, grandson of John (*ob.* 1505); an altar-tomb of Purbeck marble. Effigies of Sir Thomas and his wife Barbara drawn in scroll lines on the alabaster slab.

5. FRANCIS, son of Sir Thomas. Altar-tomb with effigies of Francis and his wife Dorothy; surmounted by an enriched canopy, on spiral shafts.

6. SIR THOMAS, son of Francis; mural monument of marble; kneeling effigies of Sir Thomas and his wife Dorothy and their children.

Thomas Cokayne, slain *vita patris* in 1488, was, as already recorded, buried in Youlgreave church. There is a beautiful monument to him, consisting of a small altar-tomb, with an effigy in armour, sculptured with great skill.

As this Thomas died—being, in fact, killed by a neighbour in some quarrel—before his father, the descent in the main line is completely included in the Ashbourne monuments, as above mentioned. These monuments, though most of them had at one time been defaced or fallen into decay, have since been repaired and restored by members of the family.¹ The heraldry displayed upon

¹ These descriptions are taken from "The Churches of Derbyshire," by J. C. Cox; vol. iii, pp. 327, 381-3.

or adjacent to the monuments is given with the illustrations thereof.

Sir Thomas Cokayne (d. 1537) was knighted by Henry VIII. at Lille, October 14, 1513, after the siege of Tournai, together with many others who had assisted thereat.¹ King Henry was very busy with the accolade during those days after the siege; no fewer than one hundred and thirty-two were dubbed "knight."

Sir Thomas, grandson of the above, was one of the most prominent members of the family. In his youth he was a friend of the Earl of Shrewsbury,² and was intimate with the two succeeding earls.

Sir Thomas was knighted in 1544; his name is included in Shaw's knights among those who were "made in Scotland by the Earl of Hertford, the king's lieutenant, 1544, at the burning of Edinburgh, Leith, and others."³

Sir Thomas refers to this campaign in his "Treatise of Hunting"; in recommending certain food for hounds, he proceeds: "I have myself proved all manner of other feedings, but used this as the purest and best, for this fiftie two yeres, during which time I have hunted the bucke in summer, and the hare in winter, two yeres only excepted. In the one, having King Henry the VIII. his letters to serve in his warres in Scotland, before his Majesties going to Bullein. And in the other, King Edward the VI. his letters to serve under Francis the Earle of Shrewsburie his Graces Lieutenant to rescue the siege at Haddington, which towne was kept by that valiant gentleman Sir James Wilford, knight."⁴

¹ Shaw's "Knights"; vol. iii, p. 42. Mr. J. C. Cox, treating of the monuments in Ashbourne church, states that this Sir Thomas "was the author of a curious book, now extremely rare, 'A Treatise on Hunting.'" This, however, is an error: it was his grandson, another Sir Thomas, who wrote this book, as described herein.

² Francis Talbot, fifth Earl of Shrewsbury, creation of 1442.

³ This was the sanguinary expedition against Scotland, in which Sir Ralph Mansel took part afloat, as vice-admiral (see vol. i, p. 315). Sir Thomas Cokayne doubtless did his duty in obedience to the commands of his king and Hertford; but it was not a creditable business for any man to be mixed up with.

⁴ The English force with which Sir Thomas acted did not, however, succeed in "rescuing" the besieged. The town of Haddington was held in the most gallant manner for nearly eighteen months, against combined French and Scotch forces, by Sir James Wilford, who was forced in the end to capitulate.



SIR ASTON COCKAYNE, Port.

Born 1708; died 1684.



MARY, DAUGHTER OF SIR GILBERT KNYVETON, BART.,
WIFE OF SIR ASTON COKE.

Died 1683.

Sir Thomas Cokayne was one of a number of gentlemen who were called upon by Sir Ralph Sadler to escort Mary Queen of Scots on her approach to Derby, in 1585, when she was on her journey to Tutbury, *en route* for Fotheringham Castle. A stage was made at Derby, and Sadler was taken to task by Burleigh for his leniency in providing rest and shelter in the town for the unhappy queen.

Sir Thomas also contributed £50 towards the defence of the kingdom against the attack of the Spanish Armada, in 1588.¹

Apart from these episodes, Sir Thomas was best known as a famous master of hunting, and expert in all appertaining thereto; and he employed his leisure in his later years in the composition of a quaint little volume, entitled "A Short Treatise of Hunting, compyled for the delight of Noblemen and Gentlemen."

The book is printed in black-letter; the title-page is embellished with a print of a dog of some unknown breed, with its tail curled over its back, and a pipe (apparently) in its mouth; the use of tobacco had then (1591) only been in vogue for three or four years in England; hence, perhaps, this pictorial allusion to a novelty which was attracting a good deal of attention at the moment.

The volume is inscribed to "The Right Honorable and my singular good Lord the Earle of Shrewsburie";² the inscription is dated, "From my house neere Aslborne, this last of December. 1590."

Then follows an address "To the Gentlemen Readers," in which the author commends hunting in all its branches as a means of keeping body and mind in a wholesome condition "to serve the Prince and country in the wars"; and winds up "with this caution, that this disport of hunting bee used by you only as a recreation to enable both your bodies and minds thereby to better exercises, and not as an occupation to spend therein daies, months and yerres, to the hinderance of the service of God, her majestie or your countrey."

Very sound advice, and Sir Thomas appears to have practised what he preached—to a certain extent; by his own admission,

¹ "History and Antiquities of Derby," by Robert Simpson. Vols. i. and ii., pp. 80, 85.

² Gilbert (1561-1628) had succeeded to the title on the death of his father, George, on November 18, preceding, only a few weeks before the date of the inscription.

however, he spent a very large proportion of the "daies, months and yeres" in his favourite pastime.

The book contains instructions in detail for breeding and training hounds, and for hunting the fox, the hare, the roe, the stag, the buck, the otter, and the marterne (martin); and winds up with a long catalogue of the notes on the horn to be used on various occasions. Altogether a very quaint little volume, characteristic of the man and of the times in which he lived.

A still more famous Cokayne was his great-grandson, Sir Aston of Ashbourne. He was son and heir of Thomas Cokayne, who married Anne, daughter of Sir John Stathope of Elvaston, county Derby.

Sir Aston was born at Elvaston in 1608, and was educated at Chenies School and Cambridge; he then, according to Anthony à Wood, entered the Inns of Court, dwelling there some time "for fashion's sake."¹ He is said to have been a learned man, and to have been upon intimate terms with many of the noted men of his day; and he acquired considerable fame as a poet and dramatist. He was addicted to greeting his relatives and friends in verse; he also described his travels on the Continent through the same medium, in response, it is said, to a request from his son for some account of them.

Wood says of him that "he was esteemed by many an ingenious gentleman, a good poet and a great lover of learning, yet by others a perfect boon fellow, by which means he wasted all he had."

These two estimates, though they appear on the surface to clash, are both, in fact, accurate enough.

¹ "Athenæ Oxoniæ." Vol. iv., col. 128. Sir Aston is stated in the Cokayne "Memoranda" to have been "educated in the University of Oxford, where he took the degree of M.A., and in Trinity College, Cambridge." Wood says he was "educated in both the universities, especially in that of Cambridge . . . as he himself confesseth in one of his works, and therefore I was sometime doubtful whether I should put him in these Athenæ: yet considering that he had the degree of M. of A. conferred on him in this University in the time of the civil broils, I did therefore allot him a place among the Oxoniens." According to the Oxford University Register he was "created M.A. 21 Feb. 1643; fellow, commoner of Trinity College, Cambridge"; i.e., he received the complimentary degree of M.A. of Oxford at the age of five-and-thirty, so he cannot be said to have been educated at Oxford; and he claims to be of Cambridge in his poems:

"Though I of Cambridge was, and far above
Your mother Oxford, and my Cambridge love."

(See vol. i., p. 214, *ibid.*, no. 32, p. 207; to Mr. Ralph Rawson.)

There can be no doubt that Sir Aston was a man of learning ; his plays, poems, and epigrams bear witness to the fact ; his verses are both original and well expressed, though not free from that element of coarseness which is characteristic of contemporary plays and poems. They are also very instructive as to family relationships, and the characters and attributes of sundry prominent men to whom he was used to address himself in this fashion.

In the *Gentleman's Magazine* for July, 1797, there appears an "Authentic Account of Sir Aston Cokaine, Bart., collected from his poems, and rectifying the Contradictions in Wood, Winstanley, Jacob, Cibber, and the *Biographia Dramatica*."

This account includes a summary in prose of Sir Aston's poetic description of his travels ; and this elicited a very elaborate and somewhat pedantic effusion, in September, from one "Viator A.," who essays to indicate mis-spelling, discrepancies, and impossibilities in the account. Sir Aston might surely have been permitted a certain amount of "poetical license." The first writer, however, in a rejoinder, vindicates the poet, pointing out that the spelling of names is taken *literatim* from Cokayne's lines.¹

Sir Aston Cokayne was also the subject of commendatory comment in Thomas Bancroft's "Epigrammes":²

"To Aston Cokayne Esq.

"He that with learning vertue doth combine
May (though a lucky passe for a divine
Piece of perfection) reach to all men's sight
Appeares yourselie ; who, if you take delight
In these composes, your applausive show
Will stampe consent, and make them currant goe."

To this rather fulsome tribute Cokayne replies as follows :

"Sir, in your Epigrams you did me grace,
T' allow me 'mong your many friends a place.
T' express my gratitude (if Time will be,
After my death, so courteous to me,
As to vouchsafe some few years to my name)
Freely enjoy with me my utmost fame."

¹ See *Gent. Mag.*, vol. lxvii., pt. ii., pp. 555, 736 ; vol. lxviii., pt. i., p. 17.

² Thomas Bancroft (died 1658) : "Two Bookes of Epigrammes and Epitaphs," 1611 : Epig. No. 120. Bancroft was born at Swanton, in Dorset, and was probably on visiting terms with Sir Aston. It was noticed that he spells the name Cokayne.

Both somewhat laboured effusions, it must be admitted !

Some doubt has been cast upon Cockayne's right to the title of Baronet ; there is no patent or enrolment to substantiate it ; but—as is pointed out in the " Complete Baronetage," by G. E. Cockayne—this is owing to the fact that the creation was made after January 4, 1641-2, when all acts of the king were declared illegal. It would, however, be recognised after the Restoration ; and it is so recognised in the Heralds' Visitation of Derbyshire in 1662, as recorded at the College of Arms. The creation was probably made about January 10 in the year above named.

Sir Aston, like so many others, suffered heavy pecuniary losses by reason of his loyalty to his religion—he was a staunch Catholic—and his king. His extravagance and generosity—as briefly summed up in the phrase " boon fellow," quoted above—so depleted his resources that he was compelled, in 1671, with the consent of his son, Thomas, to sell the Ashbourne estate, which had belonged to the family for so many generations.¹

The sale of Pooley Hall, Polesworth, Warwickshire, followed in 1683 ; here Sir Aston had chiefly resided, and he alludes to " dear Pooley " in one of his poems ; the purchaser was Humphrey Jennings, Esq.

Sir Aston Cockayne died in lodgings at Derby, February 13, 1683-4, and his son Thomas having died without issue a year or two previously, the original family of Ashbourne thus became extinct. Sir Aston was buried in Polesworth church.

Mr. Andreas Cockayne, in his " Memoranda," writing of Ashbourne, has the following : " Its ancient Hall, so long the residence of the Cockaynes, and whereof many legendary tales connected with the family are told in our own day ; wherein is shown the narrow chamber in which a ' Lady Cockayne ' was starved to death by close confinement, or starved herself to death for grief or some other dreadful reason ; the Long Walk, the avenue of stately trees, where another ' Lady Cockayne ' is said still to appear, and

¹ The purchaser was Sir William Pooley, Bart. His father, Sir Henry, was nominated baronet Nov. 3, 1644, but, owing to the Civil War, the patent never passed the Great Seal. Sir William succeeded to the baronetcy on his father's death in 1648, but was created baronet *de novo* July 13, 1660—a parallel case with that of Sir Aston Cockayne.

about whose midnight visits more than one strange story is told. The private Chapel, now the dining-room of the mansion, round whose walls the quaint legend ran—

‘Do anye manner off Slaverie,
Rather than sell thye Patrimonie,
But rather sell thye Patrimonie
Than borrowe monie on usurie.’”

A copy of this verse, engraved on a solid brass plate, is said to have been placed over the fireplace in the entrance hall.

Sir Aston Cokayne appears to have acted upon the advice contained in the two last lines of the verse—and so the “Patrimonie” was finally alienated from the family. Ashbourne Hall is now an hotel.¹

St. Oswald’s church at Ashbourne is a very fine building, with a beautiful spire.

Sir William Cokayne, Lord Mayor of London in 1619-1620, was descended from William, second son of Sir John Cokayne (*ob.* 1447), by his second marriage.

Sir William was a very prominent man in his day; he was the first governor appointed for carrying out the scheme for the Plantation of Ulster, and he founded the city of Londonderry. This business was, however, conducted from London; Sir William was never resident in Ireland. He was on the Council of the Merchant Adventurers and the East India Company;² and was knighted at Cokayne House, in Broad Street (now the City Club). June 8, 1616, after entertaining King James I. at dinner.

During the year of his mayoralty, at Easter, 1620, the marriage of his eldest daughter, Mary, with Charles, Lord Howard of Effingham³ was made the occasion of one of those elaborate pageants which were in vogue at that time—and which have been even more elaborately revived in recent years. This fête was of unusual magnificence, and was the talk of the town.

¹ The avenue is still known as “Lady Cokayne’s Walk.”

² As was likewise Vice-Admiral Sir Robert Mansel. See vol. i., p. 407.

³ Son and heir of Charles Howard, Earl of Nottingham, of Armada fame, by his second marriage, who died in 1624, when Charles above-named succeeded to the earldom.

Sir William was a very successful and wealthy man, and during his mayoralty, in 1619, he purchased some fine estates in the country, including that of Rushton Hall, Northants, which became the principal family seat.¹

His son, Charles, married, June 24, 1627, Mary, daughter and co-heir of Henry (O'Brien), fifth Earl of Thomond; and August 11, 1642, he was created Baron and Viscount Cullen, county Tipperary, in the peerage of Ireland.

Brien Cokayne (afterwards second viscount) got into trouble in 1652 under Cromwell's strict veto upon duelling. On October 15 he was summoned before the Council, and a few days later we find "John Mordant to be committed to the Tower for sending a challenge to Brien Cokayne, and Brien Cokayne for accepting it."²

Lady Mary Cokayne (Brien's mother) intervened with a petition on her son's behalf, and eventually he was liberated, the authorities "being satisfied with his admission of offence and submission to the Council."³

In a newspaper cutting attached to Bridges' "Northamptonshire" (enlarged and annotated edition, Additional MSS., 32120), there is a long and detailed account of an alleged incident at the marriage of Brien Cokayne. After his betrothal to Elizabeth

¹ Sir William Cokayne purchased, in 1621, certain estates in Leicestershire. He bought the lordship of Swepton of Sir Thomas Hamphrey, and in 1625 the fees were Mary, Countess of Dover (Sir William's widow, remarried to the Earl of Dover), William Cokayne, Matthew Cradock, and James Price. His son, Charles Cokayne (afterwards first Viscount Cullen), was lord of Swepton in 1641, and eventually conveyed the manor, in 1665, to Thomas Charnell (see "History and Antiquities of the County of Leicester," by John Nichols; vol. iii., p. 1036). Sir William also purchased the lordship of Elvesthorpe of Sir John Harrington; and it is stated that the family made this their principal residence for three generations. Eventually it passed to Mary Noel, widow of Kersley Midway, and so to her descendant, Thomas Noel, second Viscount Wentworth (*ibid.*, vol. iv., p. 637). It is interesting to find members of two Welsh families—Cradock and Price—who in past times had intermarried with the Mansels, associated with the Cokaynes; the Welsh pedigree—absolutely devoid of authorities and dates—throw no light upon the derivation of this Matthew Cradock and James Price, but they may quite possibly have been collateral descendants of Sir Matthew of Swansea and Thomas Price of Britton Ferry. Sir Matthew had only one child, Margaret, who married Sir John Malefant (see vol. i., p. 288). William Cokayne mentioned above may have been William, Skinner, of London (d. 1663), first cousin to Sir William, and sometimes confused with him; or his son (d. 1660). There was a great wealth of Williams about this period; there were four living in 1603, all nearly related.

² Cal. State Papers, Dom., 1651-1652; pp. 441, 461.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 567.

Trentham, it is said—he being then sixteen and she twelve years of age—he travelled abroad, and while in Italy he had an ardent love-affair with a young girl of high birth. He returned, however, for his marriage in England. The young Italian lady followed him, and drove up to Rushton hall in bridal attire, in a coach and six, while the wedding-banquet was in progress, entered the great hall, seized a goblet of wine and drank to the confusion and ruin of the newly married pair, cursed them in true legendary fashion, threw down the goblet, and drove off.

On the death of Borlase Cokayne, the sixth viscount, August 11, 1810—the anniversary of the Patent of Creation, one hundred and sixty-eight years before—the title became extinct.

The estates, including Rushton Hall, became vested in the ten daughters and co-heirs of the Honble. William Cokayne, younger brother of Borlase, who had died unmarried in the previous year.

Two of these ladies, the Hon. Georgiana and the Hon. Caroline Eliza, married respectively John Edmund Maunsell and Thomas Philip Maunsell, as shown in the Thorpe Malsor pedigree. Their mother (Barbara, daughter of the learned and eccentric Sergeant Hill of Rothwell), also had Maunsell blood, her great-grandfather, Edward Hill, having married Susan, daughter of John Maunsell of Thorpe Malsor (*ob.* 1677), while her only sister, Anne Hill, married, as his second wife, Thomas Cecil Maunsell of Thorpe Malsor—as is also apparent in the pedigree.

Mary Anne, second daughter of the Hon. William Cokayne, married William Adams, Esq., LL.D., and their son, George Edward Adams, assumed, after the death of his mother, in accordance with her testamentary injunction, the name and arms of Cokayne, August 15, 1873.

Mr. George Edward Cokayne was connected with the College of Arms for more than fifty years, and was very well known under his initials, G. E. C., as the editor and compiler of the "Complete Peerage" and "Complete Baronetage," works which are universally recognised as standard authorities. Both in the text and in the copious and instructive notes they bear witness to the laborious research and immense knowledge of the writer in respect of the

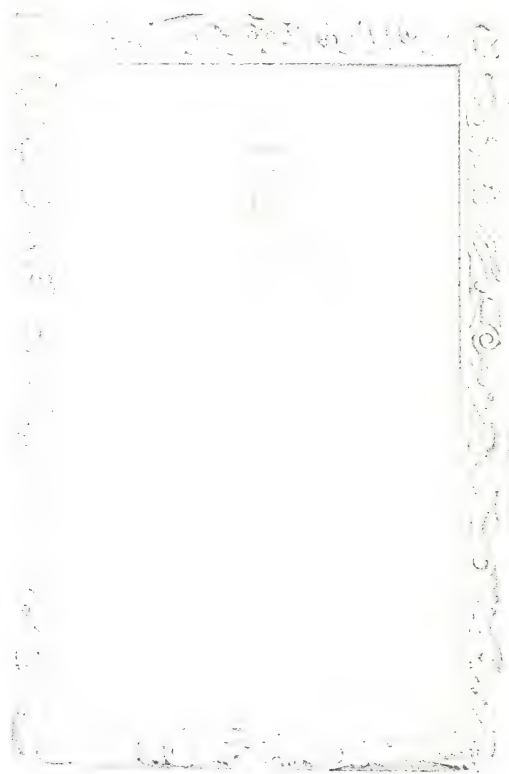
origin, descent, and vicissitudes of the vast number of families with which he had to deal. The notes frequently contain allusions which throw fresh light upon some knotty point of inheritance or what not, most welcome to the biographer and genealogist.

Mr. Cockayne died August 6, 1911, at the age of eighty-six years.

His son, Sir Brien Cockayne, K.B.E., now (1917) deputy governor of the Bank of England, is the present representative of the family.

By a royal order and declaration dated September 23, 1836, three daughters of the Hon. William Cockayne, *viz.*, Matilda Sophia, wife of the Rev. Dr. William Austen; Georgiana, wife of John Edmund Maunsell, Esq.; and Caroline Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Philip Maunsell, Esq., were authorised to "have, hold, and enjoy the same titles, place, pre-eminence, and precedence, as if their late father, the Hon. William Cockayne, had survived his elder brother, Borlase Viscount Cullen, and had succeeded to the title and dignity of Viscount Cullen; and His Majesty has also been pleased to command that the said royal order and declaration be registered in the College of Arms." (See *London Gazette* under the above date.)

Early in the seventeenth century there was one George Cockayne who was factor or agent for the East India Company at Succadama (or Sulanduna? on the west coast of Borneo). There is a good deal of discussion over his reports at the Council Board of the Company, and he appears to have been in good repute, but badly served by his local associates and assistants, of whom he writes bitter complaints. One, Hugh Greete, was a "lewd fellow, impossible to live with," and another, John Collins, was hopelessly lazy and incapable. After serving ten years in this post, and just when he was looking forward to coming home for a spell, George Cockayne was cruelly murdered by some Chinese pirates or robbers, in 1620. His sister, Mary Jackson, a widow, who appears, by inference, to have been the only person who had any claim upon his estate, was awarded a certain sum by the Council, but insisted that she was entitled to more, and continued to press her claim, both in person and by



SIR WILLIAM COKAYNE, LORD MAYOR OF LONDON.
Died 1626.



CORAYNE SHIELD.

Reproduced by kind permission of the Rev. C. H. Maunsell,
Thorpe Manor Hall.

attorney, for over two years, until the Council got tired of her, and refused to hear her again.¹

The identity of this George Cockayne does not seem to be clear; the natural inference is that he was nearly related to Sir William, who held such an influential position in the East India Company; but the pedigrees do not show any George who fits in, unless it be George (*o.s.p.*, no date), son of Francis and grandson of George Cockayne of Ballidon, who appears in the pedigree in the "Memoranda" by A. E. Cockayne.²

There are other references to the Cockaynes in various State Papers, but they are not of any special interest.

There is a very good description of Rushton Hall in Neale's "Views of Family Seats," and in A. Gotch's "Gothic Architecture" and "Buildings of Sir Thomas Tresham."

"At the extremity of the Grounds is a very curious triangular lodge, built by Sir Thomas Tresham, at the same period as the Hall, and his arms, over the door, and, underneath,

Tres Testimonium Dant,

5555.

It is two stories in height, and bears the following different dates, 1580, 1593, 1595, 1626, 1640; likewise 3808, 3500; with emblematical sculptured designs. The following inscriptions appear in the centre of the gables: 'Mentes' 'Tuorum' 'Visita.' and on a fillet, round the whole building, 'Aperiatur terra, et germinet salvatorem. Quis separabit nos a charitate Christi. Consideravi opera tua, Domine, et expavi.' The interior of the Lodge contains a chamber of hexagonal form, with a table corresponding to it in the centre. It was in this building, according to local tradition, and also in a summer-house at Newton, belonging to another branch of the Tresham family, that the conspirators used to meet and arrange their plans in maturing that plot which had so nearly been attended with fatal consequences to the kingdom."³

¹ Cal. State Papers, East Indies, 1622-1624.

² The George's father, Francis, was in 1573 apprenticed to Wm. Cockayne of the Skinners Company, doubtless Sir William's father, which renders the assumption quite probably correct.

³ From Neale's "Views of the Seats of Noblemen and Gentlemen," etc. (1826).

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In the enlarged edition of Bridges' "Northamptonshire" (Additional MSS., 32120, p. 67), there are three coloured drawings, showing each side of this curious structure in detail.

Another estate which was held by the Cokayne family for many generations was that of Bury-Hatley, in Bedfordshire—named Cokayne-Hatley after it was purchased by John Cokayne.

This John was second son of Sir John of Ashbourne (*ob.* 1372), whose tomb, together with that of his elder son, Edmund, has already been alluded to.

Early in the fifteenth century John Cokayne was chief baron of the Exchequer, a position which appears to have been assumed by many persons to have carried the dignity of knighthood, for he is universally styled *Sir* John, and has also been confused in some instances with his nephew, Sir John Cokayne of Ashbourne, son of Edmund.¹ He was not, in fact, a knight. John Cokayne had been trained in the law, probably a necessary qualification for the tenure of this responsible post.

The Cokayne-Hatley estate remained in possession of the Cokaynes for more than three hundred years, until, in 1745, Samuel Cokayne, the last of his line, bequeathed it to the representative of the Cust family, with whom the Cokaynes had intermarried. The devolution of the estate through all these generations is given, with profuse details concerning testamentary provisions and family disputes, by R. J. Cust, and embodied in A. E. Cockayne's "Memoranda"; it is a somewhat tedious effusion, and no particular object would be gained by inserting it here. The Maunsells were not immediately connected with the Cokaynes of Cokayne-Hatley.

The Maunsells and Cokaynes both married with the family of Hill, of Rothwell,² Northants.

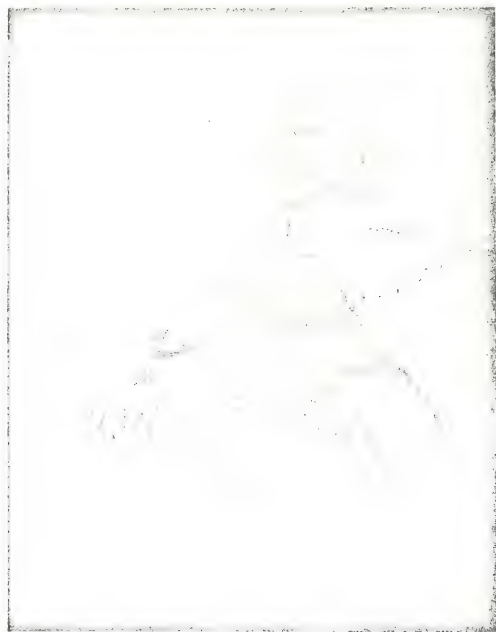
Susan, or Susanna, daughter of John Maunsell (d. 1677), married, about 1696, Edward Hill; and her great-granddaughter,

¹ There were six *barons* of the Exchequer—a chief judge, and five *prime* or junior judges, whose office it was to administer justice in causes relating to matters of revenue. The style "Baron" is not, however, the surmise conveying the impression of a title of nobility; it was probably adopted by all, because they were officers of the King's *Chancery* or court, which was the title by which they were known. The title was abolished in 1872.

² Rothwell framed hamlet, *Northants*, lies about six miles north-east from Thrappe Manor.



GEORGE EDWARD COKE,
Clarencieux King at Arms.
Born 1825; died 6 August, 1911.



CHIEF JUSTICE RAINSFORD.

Anne Hill, married, December 20, 1781, Thomas Cecil Maunsell of Thorpe Malsor. This Anne was daughter of George Hill, Esq., serjeant-at-law; her sister, Barbara, married, October 11, 1777, the Hon. William Cokayne, second surviving and youngest son of Charles, fifth Viscount Cullen.

The Hills were derived from the Rev. Martin Hill, rector of Asfordby, county Leicester, who died probably about 1562. The Rothwell branch is derived from the Rev. John Hill, fourth or fifth son of Rev. Martin aforesaid.

George Hill, serjeant-at-law, married, October 22, 1744, Anne Barbara, daughter and co-heir of Thomas Medlycott, of Bury House, Cottingham, Northants. She assumed by Act of Parliament, 1763, in compliance with the provisions of her father's will, the name and arms of Medlycott; and her daughter Barbara, wife of the Hon. William Cokayne, under the same will, also took this name and arms; so that both she and her mother, curiously enough, held different surnames from their husbands during the lifetime of the latter.

As has already been related, the viscounty of Cullen became extinct at the death of Borlase, sixth viscount, his brother William having predeceased him by less than a year, without issue; and Barbara Cokayne-Medlycott, William's wife, died at Northampton, June 2, 1838, aged eighty-five, the last surviving member of the family of Hill of Rothwell.

George Hill, serjeant-at-law, was a very well-known character in his time. He was born in 1716, was admitted to the Middle Temple on January 5, 1733; barrister, November 27, 1741; and admitted to Lincoln's Inn April 25, 1765. He was a scholar and mathematician of considerable learning, and he also acquired a great reputation for his minute knowledge of "case" law. He was, however, a very eccentric character, and it is stated of him in the Dictionary of National Biography that "he was so overwhelmed by his memory for cases that he was unable to extract from them clear general principles, and earned for himself the nickname of Serjeant Labyrinth."

There are sundry anecdotes extant concerning the serjeant,

illustrative of his eccentricities and his somewhat truculent and independent attitude towards the judge before whom he chanced to be pleading ; also of his occasional inconvenient detachment of mind from all else save the legal business on hand at the moment.

"The story goes, that on the morning of the day appointed for the wedding the Serjeant went down to his chambers as usual, and becoming immersed in business, forgot entirely the engagement he had formed. The bride waited so long that it was feared the canonical hour would elapse before his arrival. A messenger was accordingly despatched to require his immediate attendance. He obeyed the summons, and having become a husband returned again to his business. About dinner-time his clerk, suspecting that he had forgotten entirely the proceedings of the morning, ventured to recall them to his recollection ; fortunately the Serjeant had, at that moment, discovered the case for which he had been hunting, and he returned home to spend the evening in a gayer circle."¹

Abstraction of mind could scarcely go further than this ; nor was it very complimentary to the bride. Serjeant Hill is said also to have chafed somewhat—not unnaturally—under his wife's resumption of her maiden name, after they had been married nearly twenty years ; it is said that he insisted upon her signing her name Hill, save upon occasions when the other was legally imperative. "My name is Hill," he would say, "and my father's name was Hill, and a very good name too." She, on her part, though she was very much attached to her serjeant, appears to have exercised a certain domestic tyranny upon him, insisting, for instance, that he should leave the house in the morning by the kitchen door, lest he should sully the immaculate whiteness of the front steps.

Upon one occasion, when a case had gone against him before Lord Mansfield and other judges, Lord Mansfield said—perhaps with the intention of "drawing" Hill—"Now, brother Hill, that the judgment is given, you can have no objection on account of your client to tell us your real opinion, and whether you don't think we are right. You know how much we all value your opinion and

¹ "Lives of Eminent Serjeants-at-Law," by H. W. Woolrych ; vol. ii., p. 637.

CHARLES COKAYNE, 1st Viscount Cullen. Born July 4, 1692, died June, 1661.

[face p. 276



judgment." The scribe said he would very much rather be excused, but he always thought it his duty to do what the court desired, and "Upon my word," he said, "I did not think there were four men in the world who could have given such an ill-founded judgment as you four, my Lords Judges, have pronounced."

It was said by some that if Serjeant Hill had devoted himself to mathematics instead of to the law, he might have been the most distinguished mathematician of his day. He was universally acknowledged, however, as one of the most learned of lawyers. His eccentricities were always accepted in good part, and he appears to have had many friends and no enemies. He died February 21, 1808, at the age of ninety-two, having continued to practice to within three or four years of his death.

The Cokaynes were remotely connected by marriage with the family of Rainsford (or Raynsford), of Dallington, Northants; the annexed sketch pedigree illustrates the relationship.

SIR RICHARD RAYNS- = Catherine, dau. of Rev.
ford, Lord Chief Ju- Samuel Clarke, Rec-
stice; b. 1605, d. Feb. tor of St. Peter's,
17, 1682. Northampton; d. Jan-
1, 1698

MARY = William Buckley, Serjeant-
at-Law, d. Nov. 30, 1785

RICHARD BUCKLEY,
Baronet-at-Law,
d. 1718

ANN = Thomas Mallycott,
d. 1767

ANNE BARBARA = George Hill, Serjeant-
at-Law, d. 1808

BARBARA = Hon. William Cokayne

The Raynsfords were derived from John Raynsford of Raynsford Hall, Lancashire, who lived early in the sixteenth century.

Sir Richard Raynsford was born in 1605, and matriculated at Exeter College, Oxford, on December 13, 1622; was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn, October 16, 1632; was subsequently recorder

of Northampton and M.P. for that borough. His name appears in the huge list of nominees for the projected but abandoned honour of knights of the Royal Oak, so he was evidently a strong Royalist. He was knighted about 1662¹ and made baron of the Exchequer in 1663. Eventually, on April 12, 1676, he succeeded Sir Matthew Hale as lord chief justice, being promoted from the King's Bench. Lord Campbell, in his "Lives of the Chief Justices," says of Raynsford: "No one having dreamed of his going higher, the news of his appointment as Chief Justice of England caused considerable surprise; but, on account of his inoffensiveness and gentlemanlike deportment, there was a general inclination to support him and to speak well of him."

Sir Richard was called upon to give a decision in the case of the Earl of Shaftesbury, who, having been sent to the Tower under a warrant of the House of Peers, for "high contempts committed against this House," argued that he could be liberated under the Habeas Corpus Act. Raynsford, however, gave it against him, on the ground that the courts had no jurisdiction under the circumstances.

There is at Thorpe Malsor Hall a fine portrait of Chief Justice Raynsford, which came into the possession of the Maunsells as follows.

Catherine, widow of the chief justice, left it in her will to her grandson, Richard Buckby (see sketch pedigree above), through whom it came to Barbara, wife of the Hon. William Cokayne, and after her death to her daughter, the Hon. Caroline Eliza Cokayne, who married Thomas Philip Maunsell of Thorpe Malsor.

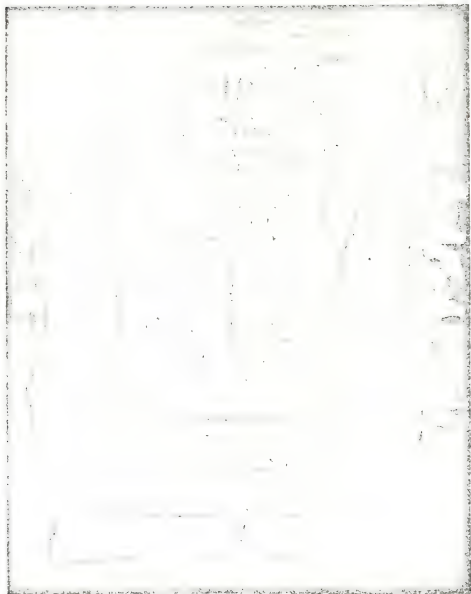
Sir Richard Raynsford's widow also left to her granddaughter, Mrs. Anne Griffin, a portrait of her late husband "set in gold with diamonds round it." Anne (or Anna) was the daughter of Richard, eldest son of the chief justice: she married James Griffin, second Baron Griffin of Braybrooke (who appears not to have assumed the title); and after the death of his son, Edward, without issue, this portrait also passed into the possession of the Maunsells. It is not quite clear why it should have so passed, unless by testamentary disposition.

¹ *Porter's Journal*, 17 p. 344, 1683. The "Knights of the Oak" were added in Jan. 24, 1683; but for some time before he was knighted he was a member of the court of barons of the Exchequer; moreover, he died in 1683, so that it is obvious that he died.



GEORGE HILL, SERJEANT-AT-LAW.

Born 1719; died 21 February, 1808.



FUNERAL BANNER OF GEORGE HILL.

(From a Photograph by John Beasley.)

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CHAPTER VI

Maunsells (Mansels) of Cosgrove

THE Maunsells (or Mansels) of Cosgrove, Northants, are descended from John Maunsell of Haversham, county Bucks, second son of Richard Maunsell of Chicheley (d. 1559).¹

Cosgrove (or Cosgrave) lies about twelve miles south-west from Northampton. There is a full manorial history of it in Baker's "Northampton," the earlier portion of which is of no especial interest with regard to the Maunsell family.

John Maunsell married Dorothy, daughter of (Samuel?) Smith (or Smyth); there is a brass in the chancel of Haversham church, with a skeleton and the following inscription: "Here resteth the body of John Maunsell, gent., who departed this life the 25th January, 1635, when he had lived LXXVI years, four months and five days, whose Christian life and godly end God grant us all to follow."

On a shield above are shown the Maunsell arms, *viz.*, a fesse, with a mullet for difference, between three maunches. (The mullet is, however, the "difference" for the *third* son.)

Samuel Maunsell, elder son of John, married, in 1611, Nightingale, sister and co-heir of Edward Furtle, Esq., who died in the same year, seised of the manor of Furtho, and a capital messuage in Cosgrove held of Sir Arthur Throgmorton, and another capital messuage there, parcel of the honour of Leicester and the duchy of Lancaster. At his death, Cosgrove was assigned to Nightingale, wife of Samuel Maunsell, who thus became Maunsell of Cosgrove through the right of his wife.

¹ In the p. 220 of Baker's "History and Antiquities of Northamptonshire," the name is spelled Maunsell, not Maunsell. John and his son, Samuel; Edward, son of the latter, is named Mansel; and his sons are Mansel, probably on the authority of traced.

4. Ralph May
London, Eng.
1812-1881
5. Thomas M.

Rev. John May
Master of Free-
ten School, 1
160-161, 162
Cosgrave and,
d. Jan. 31, 1881

BIGGIN.

John, 1st son
of Cosgrave,
Essex, Eng.
April 27, 1830
m. Florence
Johnson, d.
June 4, 1888

1. Rev. Ed. Mansel of
Cosgrave, Chap. of
1st dist. in A. V. C.
m. Florence Johnson,
Wentworth, 1854
Yorkshire, England, 1854

2. Rev. John Mansel of
Cosgrave, Chap. of
1st dist. in A. V. C.
m. Florence Johnson,
Wentworth, 1854
Yorkshire, England, 1854

3. The Hon. Geo.
1801-1881
m. Florence Johnson,
Wentworth, 1854
Yorkshire, England, 1854

1. Martha, b. 1805, m.
Wm. Johnson, 1824
2. Susan, b. 1807, m.
Wm. Johnson, 1824
3. Elizabeth, b. 1810, m.
Wm. Johnson, 1824

Robert, b. 1805
m. Florence Johnson,
Wentworth, 1854
Yorkshire, England, 1854

Susan, d. 1805, m. April
1824

1. John Mansel of
Cosgrave, Chap. of
1st dist. in A. V. C.
m. Florence Johnson,
Wentworth, 1854
Yorkshire, England, 1854

Maria, Mansel, d. 1805
m. Florence Johnson,
Wentworth, 1854
Yorkshire, England, 1854

Mary Anne, d.
unn. March
27, 1861, aged
23 years.

1. John, Chap. of
Cosgrave, Mansel
of Cosgrave, 1st
son of Cosgrave,
1815, d. May
27, 1865

2. Catherine, Mansel
of Cosgrave, 1st
son of Cosgrave,
1815, d. Jan. 1865

3. John Mansel of
Cosgrave, Chap. of
1st dist. in A. V. C.
m. Florence Johnson,
Wentworth, 1854
Yorkshire, England, 1854

4. Catherine, Mansel
of Cosgrave, 1st
son of Cosgrave,
1815, d. Jan. 1865

5. Charles, b. 1815,
m. A. V. C. 1840

Henrietta, b. 1815,
d. unn. 1828

Frances, Car-
thage, b. 1815,
m. 1840, son of Adam
Randolph

6. John Mansel of
Cosgrave, Chap. of
1st dist. in A. V. C.
m. Florence Johnson,
Wentworth, 1854
Yorkshire, England, 1854

7. Catherine, Mansel
of Cosgrave, 1st
son of Cosgrave,
1815, d. Jan. 1865

8. Evelyn, Amy, b.
Oct. 10, 1865

Margaret Anna, b.
Oct. 20, 1873, m.
Walter H. Tum-
monds, d. Sept.
1917

Henry Herman b.
Nov. 4, 1866

The accompanying pedigree of the Maunsells of Cosgrove is taken from Baker's "History of Northamptonshire"; the manner in which the Maunsells are associated with Cosgrove is clearly illustrated therein. The pedigree bears the impress of careful investigation, and is in accord with that in Mr. R. G. Maunsell's history, though it necessarily stops short at about the year 1834, when Baker was compiling his history. More recent steps are appended in the present pedigree.

Among the more prominent members of the family whose names appear in this pedigree is Major-General John Mansel, second son of the Rev. Christopher Mansel.

On the outbreak of war in 1793 it was decided to send an English contingent to Flanders to co-operate with the Prussian and Austrian armies, under the Prince of Coburg, Frederick Augustus, Duke of York, second son of King George III., being in command.

The inclusion of England in this war was precipitated by the advent of the Reign of Terror, the execution of Louis XVI., and all the horrors of those days, which aroused such universal indignation and loathing that the French Convention, realising that England would eventually join against France, took the initiative and declared war against her and against Holland.

The campaign of 1793 and 1794 is not one upon which we can look back with any feeling of pride or satisfaction. It commenced with more than one defeat, and ended in a more or less disastrous retreat and the evacuation of Flanders under the most trying and perilous conditions.

These results were due in part to the bitter jealousy which existed between the Prussians and Austrians, who could never amalgamate effectually, and consequent lack of concentration and initiative; while the French, under Pichegru, one of the younger generals who made their names in the revolutionary wars, displayed remarkable aptitude in these important particulars.

There were, however, in one area of the field, some remarkable achievements on the part of the allied cavalry, which appeared at one time to presage further and more decisive successes; and in these the British cavalry played a prominent part.



BRIAN COKAYNE, 2nd VISCOUNT CULLEN.

Born September, 1631; died July, 1687.



CHARLES COKAYNE, 3rd VISCOUNT CUTLER

Born 15 November, 1758; died 30 December, 1688.

York was by no means a brilliant general, but the king insisted that he should have the command, so there was no more to be said about it. ¹

The British contingent consisted of three battalions of guards, with a fourth formed out of their flank companies, and a brigade formed of the 14th, 37th, and 53rd Regiments—not a very formidable force.

The cavalry numbered twenty-eight squadrons, divided into four brigades, probably as follows: Harcourt's Brigade: 1st, 5th, and 6th Dragoon Guards. Mansel's Brigade: The Blues, 3rd Dragoon Guards, the Royals. Laurie's Brigade: The Bays, the Greys, the Inniskillings. Dundas's Brigade: 7th, 11th, 15th, 16th Light Dragoons, 1st Squadron Carabineers.²

This was, at any rate, the British muster on April 16, 1794, when the allied armies were reviewed by the Emperor of Austria on the heights of Cateau.

The British and Austrian cavalry were known to be far superior to the French, who would never stand up to them, and in the course of the following ten days they performed some brilliant feats.

Mansel with his cavalry brigade was sent on the night of April 23, in response to an appeal from the Austrian General, Otto, to reinforce the small body of cavalry acting under the orders of the latter. Otto had with him two squadrons of the Fifteenth Light Dragoons and as many of the Austrian Leopold Hussars; this was augmented late at night by the advent of Mansel's brigade, the Eleventh Light Dragoons, and two squadrons of the Austrian Cuirassiers, bringing up the total force to ten squadrons.

Otto had already made a reconnaissance from St. Hilaire, and located the enemy, about ten thousand strong, near the village of Villers-en-Couches.

"Early on the following morning (April 24) he again moved northward down the valley of the Selle, keeping the Fifteenth

¹ Prince Frederick was elected Bishop of Osnaburg when he was *five months old*, and was known by this title until, in 1784, when he was one-and-twenty, he was created Duke of York and Albany. He was then major-general in the Army, and colonel of the Coldstream Guards.

² "History of the British Army," by Hon. J. W. Fortescue. Vol. iv, pt. i, p. 231.

(Light Dragoons) and Leopold Hussars in advance and the remainder in support ; and at about seven o'clock the four advanced squadrons came upon a force of French light cavalry of twice or thrice their strength in a long belt of dwarf coppice, near the village of Montre-court, and about two miles east of Villers-en-Couches. Being attacked on their left flank the French horsemen at once retreated with precipitation for a quarter of a mile, when they rallied, and then retired steadily westward, covered by a cloud of skirmishers. Finally they reformed between Villers-en-Couches and Avesnes-le-Sec, fronting to eastward, and masking a force of unknown strength in their rear. Otto appears to have followed up this cavalry with great speed, for, on looking round for his supports, he could nowhere discover them. He halted the advanced squadrons, but, perceiving that he had already committed them too deeply, he assembled the officers and told them briefly that there was nothing for it but to attack. The English and Austrian officers then crossed swords in pledge that they would charge home ; and it was agreed that the British should attack in front, and the Austrians on the enemy's left flank towards Avesnes-le-Sec, which was already a name of good omen in the annals of the Austrian cavalry.

"The Fifteenth, led by Captain Aylett, then advanced at a rapid trot, breaking into a gallop at one hundred and fifty yards from the French cavalry. These did not await the shock, but wheeled outwards, right and left, and retired at speed, unmasking a line of French skirmishers and guns, which opened fire before their front was clear, and killed several of their own soldiers. In rear of the artillery six French battalions, or about three thousand men, were massed together in quadrate formation of oblong shape, with the front rank kneeling. A volley from the eastern face of this square, together with a discharge of grape from the guns, checked the attack for a moment ; but, cheered on by their officers, the Fifteenth swept through the battery and dashed straight upon the bayonets. The French infantry seems to have stood till the last moment, for Aylett fell with a deep thrust through the body, and four other officers had their horses wounded under them ; but the onset of the Dragoons was irresistible. One half of the square was dispersed instantly ;

and the other half, after firing a volley, broke up likewise after the charge of the Fifteenth, and fled in wild disorder. . . .

"Leaving, however, the Austrians to pursue the infantry towards Cambrai, the Fifteenth, now commanded by Captain Pocklington, passed on to the road from Villers-en-Couches to Bouchain, dispersed a long line of fifty guns and ammunition-waggons, which were retiring to the north-west, and continued the pursuit until the guns of Bouchain itself opened fire upon them, and a relieving force came out to save the convoy. Meanwhile not a sign appeared of the supporting squadrons which would have ensured the capture of the artillery; and Pocklington, observing other forces of the enemy closing in upon him from every side, rallied his men and retired at a trot. The blue uniform of the Light Dragoons, however, caused the French to mistake them for friends; and it was not until they were close to Villers-en-Couches that Pocklington perceived that he was cut off. The enemy was, in fact, established in his front, blocking the road with infantry and artillery at a point where a causeway carried it across a valley, though to the south of the village there were visible the scarlet coats of Mansel's brigade. Wheeling about, therefore, for a short time, Pocklington checked the pursuers that were following him from Bouchain, and then, wheeling once more to his proper front, he galloped through the French amid a heavy fire of grape and musketry with little loss, and safely joined his comrades."¹

This was certainly a very brilliant affair, the British cavalry displaying the dash and intrepidity which is characteristic of them; but they were deprived of the full fruits of their exploit by the non-arrival of the supporting squadrons: and the question arises, who was responsible for this failure?

General Otto advanced with the four squadrons which had composed his original force before the arrival of the reinforcements on the preceding night—*viz.*, the Fifteenth Hussars and the Leopold Hussars, and, says the historian, "the remainder in support." These would be Mansel's brigade, the Eleventh Light Dragoons, and the Austrian Cuirassiers, six squadrons in all—and they failed to come

¹ "History of the British Army," Vol. iv., pt. 1., pp. 236-238.

up to time, though we are told that Captain Pocklington could see the scarlet coats of Mansel's brigade, at no great distance, to the south of the village of Villers-en Couches.

Fortescue's account does not state explicitly that Mansel was in command of the whole of the supporting squadrons; he confines himself to criticism of Mansel's handling of his own brigade, and proceeds as follows:

" Things, however, had not gone well with Mansel and his brigade. Whether it was by Otto's fault or by his own that he had gone astray, and whether he attempted and failed in an attack upon the French who were obstructing Pocklington's retreat, is a mystery. We only know that Craig reported, with great regret, that the brigade had behaved ill; that he attributed the fault mainly to Mansel, whom after the action of the 17th he had already reported as an incompetent officer; but that the troops also were to blame, though the Royals had immediately rallied and covered the retreat of the other two regiments. More curious still, the list of casualties shows that the Third Dragoon Guards suffered the very heavy loss of thirty-eight men and forty-six horses killed besides nine more men wounded and missing, though the casualties of the Royals and the Blues were trifling."¹

It does not appear from this account what part Mansel took in the affair of April 17; it seems to have been a somewhat futile business, the initial success of the allies not having been followed up. Mansel's name is not mentioned.

Sir George Arthur makes the following comment: " Unfortunately, the gallant Fifteenth were robbed of the full fruits of their success by an inexplicable lack of the support expected from Mansel and his brigade, which consisted—as has been said—of the Royals, the Blues, and the Third Dragoon Guards. Having hopelessly clubbed his brigade, the commander of the support, by his blundering irresolution brought the Third Dragoon Guards under a severe enfilading fire, and threw the whole of the six squadrons into confusion, from which, however, the Royals quickly rallied, and covered the retirement of the other two regiments.

¹ *Op. cit.*, p. 238.



CHARLES COKAYNE, 5th VISCOUNT CULLEN.
Born 2 September, 1710; died 7 June, 1802.

"The Duke of York in his despatch alludes to the *contretemps* as a 'mistake,' having evidently had no opportunity of examining the officer in command.

" 'Cateau, 25 April, 1794.

" 'Had they been properly supported, the entire destruction of the enemy must have been the consequence. but by some mistake Mansel's brigade did not arrive in time for that purpose; the enemy however were obliged to retreat in great confusion into Cambray, with the loss of 1,200 men killed in the field, and 3 pieces of cannon.'"¹

Sir George Arthur is more drastic and circumstantial in his censure of Mansel than is the historian of the British Army; it will be observed, however, that both writers admit some element of obscurity in the matter: the Hon. J. W. Fortescue says that it is "a mystery" whether General Otto or General Mansel was in fault; while Sir George Arthur describes the failure of the supports as "inexplicable."

These expressions immediately suggest the question as to what were General Otto's precise instructions with regard to the action of the supporting squadrons, or whether he gave any such instructions. He galloped away at a headlong pace with his four squadrons, and then was surprised to find that his supports, which were not supposed to attack immediately, were not up with him. There would appear to have been a lack either of definite orders on the part of Otto, or of initiative on the part of Mansel—or perhaps a combination of the two.

A good deal has been written upon the matter, the relatives and descendants of General Mansel naturally resenting the imputation of incapacity or lack of courage on his part.

Sir Evelyn Wood, in an account of the action of April 24, which corresponds entirely with that quoted above from the "History of the British Army," remarks, in allusion to the fifty guns and ammunition-waggons dispersed by Captain Pocklington on the road: "Some of these guns would have been retained by the captors if the

¹ "The Story of the Household Cavalry," by Sir George Arthur, vol. ii, p. 320. Sir James Henry Craig (1748-1812) was adjutant-general to the Duke of York's army.

advanced guard had been properly supported." And again: "If the cavalry division had not mistaken its road, and had followed the advanced guard at proper supporting distance, a large number of guns would have been taken, and with but little loss to the Allies."¹

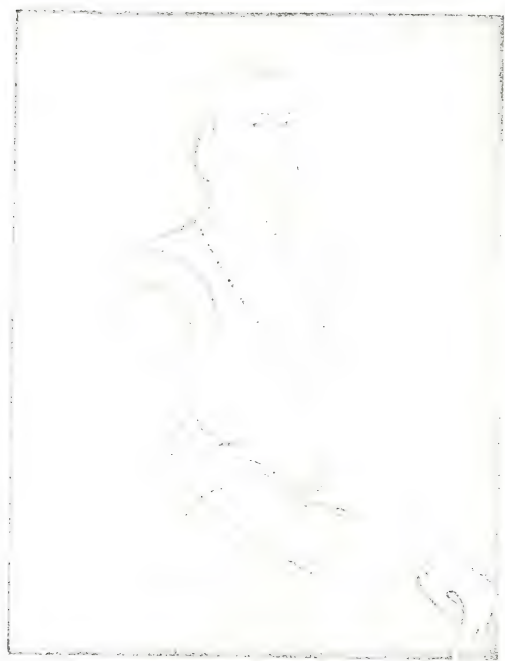
Here is implied no lack of courage or initiative, but of a reliable guide, or a connecting link with the advanced guard.

Before inserting the various letters and communications which have appeared from time to time in vindication of General Mansel's character and conduct, it will be as well to give the account of the battle of April 26, as contained in the "History of the British Army":

"Early in the morning of the 26th the French engaged the covering army simultaneously at all points. On the east General Fromentin with twenty-two thousand men assailed Maroilles and Prisches, and after a long and severe struggle captured the latter position, severing for the time communications between Alvinzky and Kinsky. Alvinzky himself was disabled by two wounds, and the situation was for a time most critical until the Archduke Charles, who had succeeded to the command of his force, by a final and skilful effort recovered the lost ground and drove the French over the Little Helpe. This enabled him to reinforce the centre under General Bellegarde, who with some difficulty was defending the line from Oisy to Nouvion against twenty-three thousand men. Thereupon Bellegarde instantly took the offensive, completely defeated the French, and captured from them nine guns.

"But far more brilliant was the success of the Allies on the west, where Chappuis led one column along the high-road from Cambrai to Le Cateau, while a second column of four thousand men advanced upon the same point by a parallel course through the villages of Ligny and Bertry, a little farther to the south. Favoured by a dense fog the two columns succeeded in driving the advanced posts of the Allies from the villages of Inchy and Beaumont on the high-road, and of Treisville, Bertry, and Maurois immediately to south of them; which done, they proceeded to form behind the ridge on which these villages stand, for the main attack. Before the formation was complete the fog cleared; and the Duke, observing that Chappuis' left flank was in the air, made a great demonstration with his artillery against the French front, sent a few light troops to engage their right, and calling all his cavalry to his own right, formed

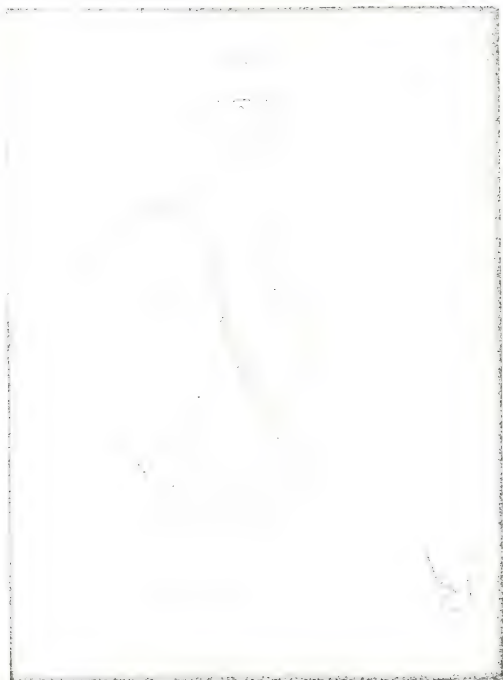
¹ "Achievements of Cavalry," by General Sir H. Evelyn Wood; pp. 14, 15.



ROBERT DUDLEY, EARL OF LEICESTER.

Born 1532; died 4 September, 1588.

(Portrait at Thrope Manor Hall.)



ROBERT DEVEREUX, EARL OF ESSEX.

Born 10 November, 1566; beheaded 25 February, 1601.

Portrait at Thorpe Malsor Hall.

them unseen in a fold in the ground between Inchy and Bethencourt, a village a little to the west of it. The squadrons were drawn up in three lines, the six squadrons of the Austrian Cuirassiers of Zeschwitz forming the first line under Colonel Prince Schwarzenberg, Mansel's brigade the second line, and the First and Fifth Dragoon Guards and Sixteenth Light Dragoons the third, the whole of the nineteen squadrons being under command of General Otto.

"In this order they moved off, Otto advancing with great caution, and skilfully taking advantage of every fold in the ground to conceal his movements. A body of French cavalry was first encountered and immediately overthrown. General Clappuis, who was with them, being taken prisoner. Then the last ridge was past, and the squadrons saw their prey before them—over twenty thousand French infantry drawn up with their guns in order of battle, serenely facing eastward without thought of the storm that was bursting on them from the north. There was no hesitation, for Schwarzenberg was an impetuous leader, and the Cuirassiers had been disappointed of distinction at Villers-en-Couches; the Blues, Royals, and Third Dragoon Guards had a stain to wipe away; the King's and Fifth Dragoon Guards were eager for opportunity to show their mettle; and the Sixteenth Light Dragoons, being the only Light Dragoons present, were anxious to prove that they could do as well as the Fifteenth. The trumpets rang out, and, with wild cheering, white coats, red coats, and blue coats whirled down upon the left flank and rear of the French. The French guns, hastily wheeled round, opened a furious fire of grape, while the infantry began as furious a fire of musketry; but the charging squadrons took no heed. Mansel, stung by the imputation of cowardice, which had been thrown out to account for his mishap on the 24th, had vowed that he would not come back alive, and dashing far ahead of his men into the thick of the enemy, went down at once; but Colonel Vyse, of the King's Dragoon Guards, taking command of both brigades, led them as straight as Mansel. In a very few minutes the whole mass of the French was broken up and flying southward in wild disorder, with the sabres hewing mercilessly among them.

"The misfortunes of the enemy did not end here, for one of their detachments, which had been pushed forward to Troisvilles, was driven back by a couple of British guns under Colonel Congreve, and joined the rest in flight. Meanwhile Clappuis' second column had advanced a little beyond Maurois with its guns, when the appearance of the fugitives warned them to retire; but in this quarter, too, there was a vigilant Austrian officer, Major Stepheicz, with two squadrons of the Archduke Ferdinand's Hussars and four of the Seventh and Eleventh British Light Dragoons. Following up the French column, he drove its rearguard in upon the main body

also, dispersed it utterly, and captured ten guns. Twelve hundred Frenchmen were killed in this part of the field alone, so terrible was the Austrian hussar in pursuit; two thousand more had fallen under the sabres of Otto's division, which likewise captured twenty-two guns and three hundred and fifty prisoners. The shattered fragments of the French army fled by a wide detour to Cambrai; and Pichegru's attack on this side was not merely beaten off, but his troops were literally hunted from the field.

"So ended the greatest day in the annals of the British Horse, perhaps the greater since the glory of it was shared with the most renowned cavalry in Europe. The loss of the Austrians was nine officers, two hundred and twenty-eight men, and two hundred and eight horses; that of the British, six officers, one hundred and fifty-six men, and two hundred and eighty-nine horses, killed, wounded, and missing. The British regiments that suffered most heavily were the Blues and the Third Dragoon Guards, each of which had sixteen men and twenty-five horses killed outright; and the determination of the Third to prove that the harsh criticism of their comrades on the 24th was unjust, is shown by the fact that five out of the six officers injured in the charge belonged to them. Mansel, the Brigadier, who was also their Colonel, died as has been told. Of the Captains one, his own son, was overpowered and taken in a desperate effort to extricate his father, and another was wounded. Of the Lieutenants one was killed and another, if not two more, wounded. The Major in command, however, had the good fortune not only to escape unhurt but to receive the sword of General Chappuis. The total loss of the covering array was just under fifteen hundred men; that of the French was reckoned, probably with less exaggeration than usual, at seven thousand, while the guns taken from them numbered forty-one."¹

Sir George Arthur, in remarking upon the Duke of York's brief report of this victory, says: "The vindication of the courage and capacity of Mansel and his brigade had been only a matter of forty-eight hours—the General himself meeting with a soldier's death at the victorious cavalry action usually known as Cateau, but more appropriately designated as Bethencourt."²

By this comment Sir George in a measure stultifies his own severe criticism already quoted; "vindication" undoubtedly implies the removal of a more or less unjust stigma; and there is

¹ *Op. cit.*, pp. 240-243.

² *Op. cit.*, vol. ii., p. 521.



COSGROVE HALL, STONEY STRATFORD, NORTHANTS.

JOHN MANSELL.



MILFICENT MANSELL.

MILFICENT MANSELL.

SEALS.

evidence to hand which tends to discount strongly the allegation that Mansel was guilty of neglect, and far less of cowardice.

In the year 1853 there was some correspondence in "Notes and Queries" with reference to these actions; it was initiated by W. Sparrow Simpson, B.A., who enquires where he can find a copious and accurate account of the Battle of Villers-en-Couches, and mentions that there is in the possession of his family a medal "worn by an officer on that occasion," inscribed "Fortitudine Villers-en-Couches, 24th April 1794." The medal could certainly not have been worn by an officer on the day of the action; it may have been struck later in commemoration of a gallant feat of arms. Mr. Simpson also confuses the actions of April 24 and 26, alluding to General Mansel as having taken part in the first.¹

In reply to this query appeared the following:

"I possess a singular work, consisting of a series of Poetical Sketches of the campaigns of 1793 and 1794, written, as the title-page asserts, by an 'officer of the Guards'; who appears to have been, from what he subsequently states, on the personal staff of His Royal Highness the late Duke of York. This work, I have been given to understand, was suppressed shortly after its publication; the ludicrous light thrown by its pages on the conduct of many of the chief parties engaged in the transactions it records, being no doubt unpalatable to those high in authority. From the notes, which are valuable as appearing to emanate from an eye-witness, and sometimes an actor in the scenes he describes, I send the following extracts for the information of your correspondent; premising that the letter to which they are appended is dated from the 'Camp at Inchin, April 26, 1794.'

"As the enemy were known to have assembled in great force at the Camp de César, near Cambray, Prince Cobourg requested the Duke of York would make a reconnaissance in that direction: accordingly, on the evening of the 23rd, Major-General Mansel's brigade of heavy cavalry was ordered about a league in front of their camp, where they lay that night at a farmhouse, forming part of a detachment under General Otto. Early the next morning an attack was made on the French drawn up in front of the village of Villers-en-Couchée (between Le Cateau and Bouchain) by the 15th regiment of Light Dragoons, and two squadrons of Austrian Hussars: they charged the enemy with such velocity and force, that, darting

¹ "Notes and Queries," First Series, vol. viii., p. 8.

through their cavalry, they dispersed a line of infantry formed in their rear, forcing them also to retreat precipitately and in great confusion, under cover of the ramparts of Cambray ; with a loss of 1,200 men, and three pieces of cannon. The only British officer wounded was Captain Aylett : sixty privates fell, and about twenty were wounded.

“ ‘ Though the heavy brigade was formed at a distance under a brisk cannonade, while the light dragoons had so glorious an opportunity of distinguishing themselves, there are none who can attach with propriety any blame on account of their unfortunate delay ; for which General Otto was surely, as having the command, alone accountable, and not General Mansel, who acted at all times, there is no doubt, according to the best of his judgment for the good of the service.

“ ‘ The Duke of York had, on the morning of the 26th, observed the left flank of the enemy to be unprotected ; and, by ordering the cavalry to wheel round and attack on that side, afforded them an opportunity of gaining the highest credit by defeating the French army so much superior to them in point of numbers.

“ ‘ General Mansel rushing into the thickest of the enemy, devoted himself to death ; and animated by his example, that very brigade performed such prodigies of valour, as must have convinced the world that Britons, once informed how to act, justify the highest opinion that can possibly be entertained of their native courage. Could such men have ever been willingly backward ? Certainly not.

“ ‘ General Mansel’s son, a captain in the 3rd Dragoon Guards, anxious to save his father’s life, had darted forward, and was taken prisoner, and carried into Cambray. Since his exchange, he has declared that there was not, on the 26th, a single French soldier left in the town, as Chapuy had drawn out the whole garrison to augment the army destined to attack the camp of Inchi. Had that circumstance been fortunately known at the time, a detachment of the British army might easily have marched along the Chaussée, and taken possession of the place ere the Republicans could possibly have returned, as they had in their retreat described a circuitous detour of some miles.’

“ ‘ Mr. Simpson will perceive, from the above extracts, that the brilliant skirmish of Villers-en-Couches took place on April 24th ; whereas the defeat of the French army under Chapuy did not occur until two days later. A large quantity of ammunition and thirty-five pieces of cannon were then captured ; and although the writer does not mention the number who were killed on the part of the enemy, yet, as he states that Chapuy and near four hundred of his men were made prisoners, their loss by death was no doubt proportionately large.

"The 15th Hussars have long borne on their colours the memorable words 'Villers-en-Couches' to commemorate the daring valour they displayed on that occasion.

"T. C. SMITH."

In Cruttwell's *Universal Gazetteer* (1808), this village, which is five miles north-east of Cambray, is described as being "remarkable for an action between the French and the Allies on the 24th of April, 1794." The following officers of the 15th Regiment of Light Dragoons are there named as having afterwards received crosses of the Order of Maria Theresa for their gallant behaviour, from the Emperor of Germany, viz.:

"Major W. Aylett, Capt. Robert Pocklington, Capt. Edw. Michael Ryan, Lieut. Thos. Granby Calcraft, Lieut. Wm. Keir, Lieut. Chas. Burrell Blount, Cornet Edward Gerald Butler, and Cornet Robert Thos. Wilson.

"(Signed) D. S."¹

It will be observed that the writer of these notes, said to be an officer of the Guards and an eye-witness, entirely and spontaneously exonerates General Mansel of blame.

The subject was further discussed a month or two later in a contribution signed H. L. Mansel, B.D., and dated from St. John's College, Oxford; this was no doubt Henry Longueville Mansel, afterwards Dean of St. Paul's. He writes as follows:

"I am in a position to furnish a more complete account of this skirmish, and of the action of April 26, in which my grandfather, General Mansel, fell, from a copy of the *Evening Mail* of May 14, 1794, now in the possession of J. C. Mansel, Esq., of Cosgrove Hall, Northamptonshire. Your correspondent Mr. T. C. Smith appears to have been misinformed as to the immediate suppression of the Poetical Sketches by an officer of the Guards, as I have seen the third edition of that work, printed in 1796.

"Particulars of the Glorious Victory obtained by the English Cavalry over the French under the Command of General Chapuis, at Trôisvilles, on the 26th of April, 1794.

"On the 25th, according to orders received from the Committee of Public Safety, and subsequently from General Pichegru,

¹ "Notes and Queries," First Series, vol. viii., pp. 127, 128.

General Chapuis, who commanded the Camp of César, marched from thence with his whole force, consisting of twenty-five thousand infantry, three thousand cavalry, and seventy-five pieces of cannon. At Cambray he divided them into three columns; the one marched by Ligny and attacked the redoubt at Trois-villes, which was most gallantly defended by Col. Congreve against this column of ten thousand men. The second column was then united, consisting of twelve thousand men, which marched on the high road as far as Beausois; and from that village turned off to join the first column; and the attack recommenced against Col. Congreve's redoubt, who kept the whole at bay. The enemy's flank was supported by the village of Caudry, to defend which they had six pieces of cannon, two thousand infantry, and five hundred cavalry. During this period Gen. Otto conceived it practicable to fall on their flank with the cavalry; in consequence of which, Gen. MANSEL with about fourteen hundred and fifty men—consisting of the Blues, 1st and 3rd Dragoon Guards, 5th Dragoon Guards, and 1st Dragoons, 15th and 16th Dragoons, with Gen. Dundas, and a division of Austrian cuirassiers, and another of Archduke Ferdinand's hussars under Prince Swartzenburg—after several manœuvres, came up with the enemy in the village of Caudry, through which they charged, putting the cavalry to flight, and putting a number of infantry to the sword, and taking the cannon. Gen. Chapuis, perceiving the attack on the village of Caudry, sent down the regiment of carabineers to support those troops; but the succour came too late, and this regiment was charged by the English light dragoons and the hussars, and immediately gave way with some little loss. The charge was then continued against a battery of eight pieces of cannon behind a small ravine, which was soon carried; and, with equal rapidity, the heavy cavalry rushed on to attack a battery of fourteen pieces of cannon, placed on an eminence behind a very steep ravine, into which many of the front ranks fell; and the cannon, being loaded with grape, did some execution; however, a considerable body, with Gen. MANSEL at their head, passed the ravine, and charged the cannon with inconceivable intrepidity, and their efforts were crowned with the utmost success. This event decided the day, and the remaining time was passed in cutting down battalions, till every man and horse was obliged to give up the pursuit from fatigue. It was at the mouth of this battery that the brave and worthy Gen. MANSEL was shot: one grape-shot entering his chin, fracturing the spine, and coming out between the shoulders; and the other breaking his arm to splinters; his horse was also killed under him, his Brigade-Major Payne's horse shot, and his son and aide-de-camp, Capt. Mansel, wounded and taken prisoner; and it is since known that he was taken into Arras. The French lost between fourteen and fifteen thousand men killed; we



MAJOR-GENERAL JOHN MANSEL.

3rd Dragoon Guards.

Died 20 April, 1791.



MAJOR JOHN MANSEL, 3rd Dragoon Guards.

A.D.C. to his Father at the Battle of Le Cateau.

Born 20 August, 1771; died 3 April, 1830.

took five hundred and eighty prisoners. The loss in tumbrils and ammunition was immense, and in all fifty pieces of cannon, of which thirty-five fell to the English; twenty-seven to the heavy, and eight to the light cavalry. Thus ended a day which will redound with immortal honour to the bravery of the British cavalry, who, assisted by a small body of Austrians, the whole not amounting to fifteen hundred, gained so complete a victory over twenty-two thousand men in sight of their corps de reserve, consisting of six thousand men and twenty pieces of cannon. Had the cavalry been more numerous, or the infantry able to come up, it is probable few of the French would have escaped. History does not furnish such an example of courage.

“ The whole army lamented the loss of the brave General, who thus gloriously terminated a long military career, during which he had been ever honoured, esteemed, and respected by all who knew him. It should be some consolation to those he has left behind him, that his reputation was as unsullied as his soul was honest; and that he died as he lived, an example of true courage, honour, and humility. On the 24th General MANSEL narrowly escaped being surrounded at Villers-en-Couches by the enemy, owing to a mistake of General Otto's aide-de-camp, who was sent to bring up the heavy cavalry: in doing which he mistook the way, and led them to the front of the enemy's cannon, by which the 3rd Dragoon Guards suffered considerably.”¹

In the *Times* of January 26, 1855, appears a letter from Mr. Mansel—signed with his initials, H. L. M.—commenting upon an eloquent eulogy by Lord Ellenborough upon the gallantry of the famous charge of the Light Brigade at Balaclava. Lord Ellenborough expresses the view that this feat of arms was unprecedented; Mr. Mansel gives the account from the *Evening Mail* as an instance in which a small body of cavalry had performed a similar action, and, while disclaiming any intention of underrating the gallantry of the Light Brigade, expresses the view that the achievement of the cavalry under General Otto furnishes no unworthy parallel to the heroic charge of Balaclava—a view which will certainly be heartily endorsed by those who have read the various accounts of the action of April 26, 1794.

In an “ Historical Record of the Fifteenth Hussars ” it is stated that. “ The allied detachment felt itself committed to a

¹ “ Notes and Queries,” First Series, vol. viii., pp. 370, 371.

desperate conflict with the force in view, for no sign of the supporting column was perceptible—by some mistake of orders it had pursued a wrong direction"—General Mansel being thus once more explicitly acquitted of blame.

Captain Lewis Tobias Jones, of the 14th Regiment, in a journalistic account of these events, says: "From the situation of the country, the heavy dragoons could not get on fast enough to support the light corps, or the entire destruction of the enemy must have been the consequence."¹

A correspondent of "*Notes and Queries*," in allusion to the battle of Villers-en-Couches and the engagement of April 26, mentions that he has access to a copy of Captain Jones's book with MS. marginal notes by the author, one of which he quotes: "The same officer of this corps (3rd Dragon Guards), who bore off the corpse of General Mansel, relates some particulars in the action of the 24th,"² etc.

There is an apparent allusion here to another MS. note; there is no mention in the text of an officer who carried off General Mansel's body.

In another account of these actions appears the following: "The charge should have been supported by the Heavy Cavalry under Mansel, but, by some blunder in the orders, no support was given, and this brought much discredit on the 'Heavies.' These had to execute a somewhat desperate charge two days after, and the Duke of York, in riding down the line, said, 'Gentlemen, you must repair the disgrace of the 24th.' Mansel, the general commanding, by way of 'repairing the disgrace,' deliberately threw away his life. He despatched his aides-de-camp on various errands, forbade his orderly dragoon to follow him, coolly rode alone into the enemy's ranks, and died fighting."³

This very perfunctory and probably misleading account of these episodes elicited a strong remonstrance from a great-granddaughter of the general—Miss Eleanor Maria Mansel, daughter of

¹ "An Historical Journal of the British Campaign on the Continent in the Year 1794," by Captain L. T. Jones of the 14th Regiment, 1797; p. 17.

² "*Notes and Queries*," First Series, vol. viii, p. 246.

³ "How England saved Europe," by W. H. Fitchett, Vol. i, p. 75.



ADMIRAL ROBERT MANSELL, R.N.,
of Charlton Kings, near Cheltenham.
Born 15 March, 1773; died 5 January, 1838.



MRS. R. MANSELL,
WIFE OF ADMIRAL MANSELL.



H.M.S. PENGUIN: CAPT. R. M. MANSELL.

Robert Stanley Mansel: which, together with a reply—from A. N. not W. H. Fitchett—is here appended.

"16 July, 1900.

"On page 75, Vol. I., speaking of the events of the unfortunate Flanders campaign, you state that 'by way of repairing the disgrace General Mansel deliberately threw away his life.' As a descendant of the General may I be pardoned for asking if this statement is derived from any authentic, historical account? When compared with the account we have of the engagement (the only one I knew had ever been published), it appears to me unjust to the memory of my great grandfather, making it appear that he incurred disgrace and then had not courage to face the situation and retrieve his honour. Of course a General who fails to appear when summoned does incur disgrace, but I believe it is perfectly true that General Mansel was both ready and eager to obey the summons, and the aide-de-camp's blunder caused the greatest annoyance to him and his men, and, naturally, he felt keenly the Duke of York's sarcasm. Then you say, 'He despatched his aides-de-camp on various errands, forbade his orderly dragoon to follow him, coolly rode *alone* into the enemy's ranks,' etc. Now Major Mansel most certainly was fighting beside him, and saw him receive the fatal wound just before he was himself wounded and taken prisoner, and the General, even if he *had* devoted himself to death, first led his men all day, and had not only charged but defeated the enemy before he fell. The original edition of the *Evening Mail*, from which the enclosed extract is copied is still preserved in the family. I may add that my own father as a boy spent most of his holidays at Cosgrove Hall with the Major Mansel who was wounded in that charge, and the description of it, as well as some anecdotes in connection with it, were often related to him by his uncle and thus handed down to us. I have always understood that the charge was intended to cover the Duke of York's retreat."

"Methodist Ladies' College,

"Hawthorn, Melbourne.

7. II. 00.

"DEAR MADAM,

"Your note of July 16 with enclosure has reached me here. I am sorry if a sentence in my history has seemed to reflect unjustly on the memory of a gallant soldier. I fancy—I speak from memory—that the statement was in Sir Robert Wilson's book. I am sure I did not make the statement without what seemed reliable authority; but it is difficult, when one's notes have been destroyed, to trace each statement to its origin. The extract

you are good enough to send me from the *Evening Mail* is very interesting, and I may find some occasion to make use of it. With thanks for yr. letter.

"Yrs. very truly,

"A. N. FITCHETT.

"*Miss E. M. Mansel.*"

Miss Mansel's protest, it must be admitted, is reasonable enough. She appears, however, to accept the statement that the Duke of York made use of the words attributed to him—very bitter words in the ear of soldiers, whether or not they are conscious of default. It may be questioned whether such speech was really uttered; if it was, it constituted an injustice to the men addressed. If the various accounts are to be credited, Mansel's brigade remained inert through non-delivery of orders, or else was misled in advancing to the support. Mr. Fitchett himself, in fact, contravenes the accusation of neglect or cowardice in the preceding sentence, "by some blunder in the orders, no support was given."

That General Mansel, as stated in Mr. Fitchett's account, deliberately and uselessly threw away his life in chagrin over some camp gossip about the non-arrival of the supports on the 24th, is not for a moment to be credited.

That there would be such gossip goes without saying; the precise facts would not be known to many, and soldiers, in common with other mortals, are apt to be uncharitable without deliberate intention of being so. There were probably some who hinted that Mansel and his men were ready enough to remain inactive, and so forth; and everyone knows how rapidly such gossip flies round. Some of Mansel's dragoons may have heard a whisper, which would be passed on to the troop sergeant, by him to some young cornet, and so at length reached the general.

However this may be, there is certainly not adequate evidence to convict General Mansel of neglect or cowardice; he may possibly have displayed a lack of initiative. The non-arrival of the supports was no doubt a matter of very bitter regret to him, and whatever the cause, one can well imagine him saying to himself, "Well, they shan't say I didn't arrive this time!"

As Miss Mansel points out, however, very justly, the general, so far from being guilty of what might be termed military suicide, most gallantly led his men into action, and by his splendid and fearless conduct contributed, beyond all doubt, immensely to the success of the charge.

When the leading ranks found themselves on the brink of that precipitous slope of the ravine, with the guns playing upon them, and not a few of their comrades' horses rolling helplessly down into the chasm, there might well have been some hesitation among them. But no! there was the general ahead of them, scrambling down the slope, holding up his charger with consummate skill and coolness, and riding straight for the guns. Who could refuse to follow such a lead?

And so he fell, as a soldier would wish to fall.

His son was straining to keep pace with him, realising instinctively, perhaps, his frame of mind that morning: but filial devotion is powerless against showers of grape at close range, and Captain Mansel himself, before he could get to his father's side, was badly wounded and eventually taken prisoner.

Of his capture there is a full account extant, from a gallant and humane French officer, which is here given *in extenso*.

COPY OF MEMORIAL FORWARDED FROM A FRIEND AT LYNCHFIELD TO
SIR THOMAS COTTON SHEPPARD; AND BY HIM SENT TO MAJOR
MANSEL.

"On the 26th of April, 1794, in the Engagement at Cateau, Cambray, Captain John Mansel of the 3rd Regt. of Dragoons, the son of General Mansel, was made prisoner by a French Dragoon. It was in the heat of the engagement, and the fury on both sides was such that in a moment he was surrounded with bayonets and would have been run through on every side. I perceived him. I pressed through the crowd and protected him by throwing myself upon him. I addressed the soldiers and conjured them in the name of honour and humanity to spare this defenceless victim. I succeeded in appeasing them. Captain Mansel escaped this danger, only to fall a moment after into a situation a thousand times more horrible. There were four brothers in the Company in which I served: scarcely had I succeeded in tranquillising the fury of my comrades, the battle

still continuing, when the eldest was stretched on the ground by a ball, which struck his head. The three brothers cried for vengeance, and arousing all the Company they rushed forward to attack the prisoner, Captain Mansel. I precipitated myself upon him, took him in my arms. I entreated a second time for his pardon. All the soldiers cried, 'Vengeance on the monster.' Mildness being now unavailing, I called out to them 'Murderers, retire; this is my prisoner, he who dares to touch him shall perish by my hand.' They answered me only by abuse. 'You are a Royalist,' they cried, 'a traitor to the Republic.' All this while I was obliged to keep moving round the unhappy prisoner to protect him from them. On hearing this disturbance, several officers of my corps joined me and declared their horror and their indignation. Their language had an effect and the soldiers joined their ranks again. John Mansel overwhelmed me with expressions of gratitude, and said he considered me his preserver. We retreated, and arrived that night at Cambrai. To secure Captain Mansel from all danger when we were some miles from the town I gave him in charge to an officer who went before us into the town; he was sent to Prison. There were at that time in the same prison a great number of victims detained by the orders of the too famous Representative of the People, Joseph Lebon. As soon as I arrived, I went to the Prison to enquire after the prisoner, but was refused admittance. On the third day I obtained admission, and he told me that he had been left two days without food. This barbarity arose from the cruelty of Joseph Lebon. I recommended the English Officer to my friend M. Rapaillet de la Croix, who was arrested as a suspected Royalist. He promised to divide all his meals with his English companion and he kept his word. I remained 15 days at Cambrai during which time I visited my unhappy friend every day. He always received me with transports of joy. He talked of nothing but his gratitude and his desire to prove it to me. He told me often that he should be happy to see me in England. Sometimes he said that 'If the fate of war should lead you to our country remember that you have there a friend who considers you as a second father.' On my arrival in England eight years ago while I was yet on board the prison ship the *Royal Oak*, I wrote to Mr. Mansel with the address he had given me at Cambrai. I received no answer. I wrote to him a second and a third and a fourth letter after my arrival at Lichfield, but I received never an answer. I suppose my letters have remained in the Transport Board, or have been lost in the Post Office.

" POITEVIN, Captain,

" Prisoner of War at Lichfield.

" *Lichfield, The 6th May, 1811.*"

EXTRACT

"The enclosed Memorial is, I believe, a true account of the escape from death of Major (then Captain) Mansel. He was badly wounded in the knee, and was never able to return to active service. He was 2 years a prisoner and was then exchanged (I think through the interest of the Duke of York).

"Of course he never received Captain Poitevin's letters, and afterwards was able to procure his release, somewhere about May, 1811.

"Signed: CHARISSA SEARLE."¹

Major Mansel added a slip to this letter from Captain Poitevin: "Letter relating to my being taken prisoner 26th April, 1794, from Capt. Poitevin, the French officer who saved my life."

There is a brief reference to the actions of April 24 and 26 in the correspondence of Sir Harry Calvert:

"The enemy retired to Villers-en-Couches that night, but occupied Saultzoi and Haussy. Otto, finding their strength greater than he expected—about fourteen thousand—early in the evening sent in for a brigade of heavy cavalry for his support, which marched first to Fontaine Antarquie, and afterwards to St. Hilaire (this was evidently Mansel's brigade), and in the night he sent for a further support of four battalions and some artillery. Unfortunately, he confided this important mission to a hussar, who never delivered it, probably having lost his way, so that, in the morning, the General found himself under the necessity of attacking with very inferior numbers."

There appeared in the *Nineteenth Century* of May and November, 1916, under the title "Fighting in Flanders in 1793 and 1794," written by Mrs. Stirling, an article containing copious extracts

¹ Daughter of Rev. Henry Longueville Mansel, Rector of Cosgrove; she married Alfred Searle, Esq.

² "The Journals and Correspondence of General Sir Harry Calvert, Bart." (1763-1826): p. 194. Sir Harry was second-in-command to the Duke of York, and subsequently adjutant-general. He tells a story which would appeal to our men in the war of 1914, etc. "It was during the preparation for the siege of Landrecy. . . . Since Sunday, the enemy have fired very little, which gave occasion to a . . . of the Austrian engineer Orlandini. A stupid Dutch major, who had been boring him for a considerable time, at last observed: 'On est assez sur dans ces tranchées, mon Colonel!' 'Oh, pour cela?' replied Orlandini, 'on ne meurt ici que de l'ennui.' " One can imagine a Scotsman, or a Cockney "Tommy," making just such a remark to the relief as it arrived to occupy the trenches!

from the diary of Charles Hotham,¹ a young officer in the Coldstream Guards.

In this diary there occur some entries bearing upon the actions now under review, which throw further light upon General Mansel's conduct, and tend entirely to exonerate him of blame.

Writing on April 26, Hotham says: "Just as the Dutch army had completed their first parallel the French made a sortie (from Landrecy) with nearly all their Garrisons; many men were killed on both sides, but in the end the French were driven into the town with considerable loss. It was, however, universally reported in camp that the loss which the Light Dragoons sustained might have been entirely prevented, and that the enemy, on the contrary, would have suffered more materially, had they been properly supported by General Mansel's brigade, which either did not, or could not, arrive in time.

"There was unfortunately much rivalry between the Light Dragoons and the Heavy Cavalry. The former were repeatedly engaged during the former campaign and had always behaved extremely well, but it so happened, from accident alone, that the Heavy Cavalry were not engaged once."

Here is an interesting sidelight upon the circulation of injurious gossip concerning Mansel and his troops, which finds no place in official reports or in the accounts of historians. Such jealousy would obviously be a most fruitful source of depreciative tittle-tattle.

Hotham proceeds: "Now what gave rise to such a disparaging report I cannot say; but I do not credit it. It is not possible that one set of English troops could for a moment see their friends in any scrape without instantly flying to their assistance; and it cannot have happened for another reason. Our Brigade of Guards marched at eleven in the morning to the rising ground above Fontaine, about five miles in front of our camp on the Cambrai Road,

¹ Charles Hotham, eldest son of Sir John Hotham, ninth baronet of the name. He was twenty-seven years of age when he was sent to Flanders with his battalion, and his diary embraces the whole period of the campaign. He was evidently a keen soldier and a brave and observant man. At the death of Sir John in 1793 he succeeded as tenth baronet. He died in 1811.

in order to cover any retreat of the Dragoons, by defending a narrow pass, or, by presenting a considerable front on the hill, to prevent any pursuit, and, in fact, to be a *portée* to anything which might happen. We remained on this ground until the evening, during which time we saw nothing of this misconduct in the Heavy Cavalry : and from our commanding situation almost everything was within our sight, as the country is one entire cornfield, without any obstruction to the eye."

This is, admittedly, somewhat negative evidence ; but the enthusiastic young officer's conviction that " it is not possible that one set of English troops could for a moment see their friends in any scrape without instantly flying to their assistance " is amply maintained by experience and tradition ; and the assumption that Mansel and his brigade deliberately refrained from rendering such aid is not warranted by any evidence worthy the name.

Alluding to the events of April 26 (under date of the following day), Hotham writes :

" General Mansel was killed in this engagement under circumstances which made his life more regretted, if possible, than it otherwise would have been. As previously mentioned, it had been whispered about that he had not brought up his brigade on the preceding day when he might have saved the Light Dragoons—that he deliberately kept aloof and did not exert himself to get to their assistance, which might have been effected with the greatest ease. I believe that he received some very galling and heart-breaking expressions from the Commander-in-Chief, and the impression regarding his conduct was publicly known, as even the *Gazette* records that ' owing to some mistake General Mansel's Brigade did not arrive in time.' He naturally felt very miserable at such reflections thrown upon his character (which had always been unblemished, he having served before in a most respected situation) : and being a man of delicate feelings, he was induced to do more by way of clearing himself from these cruel aspersions than was his duty. When his Brigade charged he put himself at their head (which is never done) and led them on, by which he was the very first man killed. He did it in a most marked and pointed manner, which made all near him

conclude that he was determined to wipe away any slur on his reputation either by throwing himself into the most immediate danger, or to receive his death blow—the latter of which, poor man, was his fate.

"Another corroborating circumstance that his intention was what I conceive is that as soon as his Brigade was ordered forward under his sole command, and that he knew he should have an opportunity of doing what he chose, he immediately dispatched his son (who was his aide-de-camp) upon some trifling message, which prevented the latter being with him all day . . . and from the insignificance of the message I am confident he wished his son not to be with him that day. However, during the morning, in riding about to find his father's Brigade (as it was conjectured) the young man lost himself, was taken prisoner, and was sent to Arras."

There are some discrepancies or inaccuracies here; Hotham alludes to the former action as having been fought "on the preceding day," whereas it took place on the 24th. Also, he is wrong in stating that General Mansel dismissed his son on some trivial message before the advance, as it is well known in the family, from Major Mansel's own lips, that he was near his father at the time.

There is some corroboration here of Mr. Fitchett's story that the Duke of York reproached the Heavy Cavalry for their conduct on the 24th: the language of the official despatch, however, stultifies any such proceeding. Mr. Fortescue accounts for the tone of the despatch by the assumption that the Duke had not had opportunity of seeing Mansel when he wrote it; it is dated, however, upon the following day, and one would imagine that opportunity would have been easy enough to compass. But the historian's view of Mansel's conduct appears to necessitate some such explanation.

It would appear that General Otto was in two instances badly served by his messengers; the incident of the hussar has been confounded with the summons to Mansel's brigade on the following morning, but the two episodes are quite distinct, and in Mansel's case it was an aide-de-camp, not a trooper, who is alleged to have blundered.

Alluding to the action of the 25th Sir Harry Calvert says that the cavalry performed their part "in a style beyond all praise,



CHARLTON KINGS, SEAT OF ADMIRAL MANSELL, R.N.

charging repeatedly through the enemy's column, and taking twenty-six pieces of cannon " (p. 196).

This is, indeed, the universal verdict of eye-witnesses and historians alike, and it is much to be regretted that General Mansel, who so gallantly led this historic charge, should have been subjected to some inexcusable aspersions respecting his conduct in the previous affair ; a careful study of all the evidence leads to the conclusion that the failure of the supports to arrive was due to a blunder, and not to any neglect on Mansel's part.

Such statements as those already quoted, in the accounts of Sir George Arthur, Mr. Fortescue, and Mr. Fitchett, should not be made in any book professing to be a history, without reference to authorities ; nor can they be accepted without such authority.

It has been said that General Mansel's body was found, after the action, in a ditch, stripped naked, and with the throat cut.

This, however, is untrue, as the coat in which he fell, with the shot-holes in it, was brought home by Sergeant Smith and preserved at Cosgrove Hall until it was presented by Mrs. Randolph (daughter of John Christopher Mansel Esq.) to the museum in Peterborough.

There is also in Peterborough Museum a diary of General Mansel, attached to which is a note embodying a not very complete account of the action of April 16 : it does not contain any details which have not already been given here.

General Mansel was buried in a redoubt in the camp with the fullest military honours, six generals acting as pall-bearers, the Duke of York, the Stadtholder, the hereditary Prince of Orange, and all available officers being in attendance.

One hundred and twenty years after the stirring episodes here related, a British army was once more engaged upon the same ground—an army which, though reckoned relatively small by the standards of the present day, outnumbered enormously the force which fought under the command of the Duke of York.

The men who composed this army proved themselves to be of the same stuff as those invincible troopers who charged more than tenfold their number at Villers-en-Couches and Le Cateau.

Transported, by skilled engineers, and by immense energy,

across the Strait, and over seventy miles inland to the neighbourhood of Mons, the British troops, like General Otto's force on April 24, found themselves in a position which necessitated a fight with an enormously preponderating army : a fight which they could not hope to win, while anything like a precipitate retirement would have involved practical destruction ; indeed, the general in command stated that in the first instance the men were too fatigued for any such flight, and must perforce remain and give battle.

It was an heroic rearguard action on a huge scale, and the enemy had a foretaste, thus early in the war, of the stamp of men he had to encounter. Had the odds been reversed, there can be little doubt but that the German force would have been cut up beyond reprieve, if not absolutely wiped out.

The British army occupied the post of danger and also of honour ; had the enemy succeeded in rolling up the left flank of the allied armies it would have been disastrous beyond calculation ; and to all appearance he possessed ample means to that end.

It was the heroic stand of our men against huge odds which warded off the catastrophe.

For four days, from Sunday, August 23, to the afternoon of the 26th, they were fighting almost without cessation, and though our losses were heavy, the Germans, advancing again and again in massed formation to swallow up the "contemptible little army," suffered far more severely.

The retirement was at first in the direction of Maubeuge, a fortified town about twelve miles south of Mons, and the enemy tried hard to force us to occupy it, and thus assume the condition of a besieged army ; but we would have none of it, and on the 25th we had occupied the line Cambrai-le Cateau-Landrecies, the ground covered during the battles of 1794.

Eventually the British force was extricated, battered indeed, but unbeaten, having achieved an end of almost inconceivable importance, and taught the Germans a lesson which they have not forgotten—a lesson which Napoleon was grudgingly compelled to admit that he had learned : "These English never know when they are beaten."

And now the sword must give place to the pen, the soldier's tunic to the parson's gown.

John Mansel the soldier, as is testified in the preceding pages, lived and died in a manner worthy of his calling. His grandson attained far greater celebrity, however, as a metaphysician and an author, than General John had achieved as a soldier.

Henry Longueville Mansel, the second of the name, was born at Cosgrove rectory, October 6, 1820. His father was youngest son of General Mansel; his mother was daughter of Admiral Sir Robert Moorsom.¹

There is an excellent account of Mansel's life in "Lives of Twelve Good Men," by Dean Burgon of Chichester; and a very sympathetic sketch also by the Earl of Carnarvon, a former pupil and intimate friend of Mansel, in the introduction to a volume of essays; from these sources chiefly is culled this present account of a very remarkable and estimable man.²

Mansel was very happy in the surroundings of his childhood and early years; his father, the rector of Cosgrove, was a man of admirable character and of considerable intellectual capacity; his mother is described as "a woman of great strength of character, clearness of understanding, and quickness of judgment . . . the very pattern of a clergyman's wife—a pattern mother too." She was possessed of an extraordinary memory, which her son inherited, and, in the course of his studies, fostered and developed in an amazing degree. He was always very well equipped when, as children, on "coming down to dessert," he and his sisters were expected to "say

¹ Sir Robert Moorsom commanded the *R Revenge* at the battle of Trafalgar, and was subsequently master-general of Ordnance. The *R Revenge* had a hot time at Trafalgar, twenty-eight of her crew being killed and fifty-two wounded, Captain Moorsom among them. His son, Vice-Admiral Constantine Richard Moorsom, was a man of some note; and Captain William Moorsom, first cousin of Constantine and nephew of Sir Robert, was the inventor of an ingenious fuse for the spherical shell in vogue at that time. "Moorsom's fuse" was a very familiar term in the Navy, and it remained *en vogue* until smooth-bore guns became obsolete. A biography of Sir Robert Moorsom is given in Appendix III. to this volume.

² "Lives of Twelve Good Men," by J. W. Burgon, Dean of Chichester. Vol. iii., pp. 140-238. "The Gnostic Heresies of the First and Second Centuries," by Henry Longueville Mansel; introduction by Henry James, Esq., M. A., 1887. "Life of Carnarvon, treating of Mansel's life," etc.

something by heart," whereby they earned their fruit or other delights.

Among their youthful recreations a favourite was "The Siege of Troy," which consisted in attacking and defending a stack of faggots in the rectory yard, the children severally personating the chief characters of the "Iliad." This classical entertainment was, however, at length abandoned by reason of the inconvenience involved upon some of the characters by the realistic presentment of sundry episodes: Eleanor (afterwards Mrs. Gates) found the experience of being dragged by the heels round the walls of Troy a trifle too drastic; and Clara (afterwards Mrs. Searle) protested when called upon to part with her tresses in order to supply the besieged with bow-strings.

Henry at an early age derived from his father his first lessons in the use of language in the expression of his thoughts. He is said to have learned from his father "never to use a word of two syllables where a word of one would do"—an axiom which is certainly liable to be destructive of "style," and of the adoption of which there is no indication in the beautiful and polished periods of his mature compositions.

He evinced from his earliest years a precocious thoughtfulness, would constantly display in speech or action a remarkable originality, and was always on the *qui vive* to know "why"—a somewhat disconcerting habit which many clever children have developed, not infrequently to the discomfiture of their elders. His mother once overheard him soliloquise, as he lay on his back—a favourite attitude—"My hand; my foot; but what is *me*?"—a query which goes to the root of psychology and metaphysics, of which he was destined to become a most eminent exponent.

His remarkable memory was apparent at a very early age; before he was considered old enough to be taught, while apparently engrossed with his toys—which he would sometimes pull to pieces to find out how they were made—he would pick up portions of his sisters' lessons by ear, and was able to prompt them if they were at fault in repeating them to their mother.

At eight years of age he was sent to a preparatory school at

East Farndon, in Northamptonshire, under the Rev. John Collins, where he speedily attracted notice by his assiduity and his love of reading.

He only remained there, however, for two years ; in the year 1830, through the friendly offices of the Rev. Philip Wynter (at that time President of St. John's College, Oxford), he obtained a presentation to Merchant Taylors' School ; there he was entered on September 29, 1830, and there he remained for nine years.

During this period of the most rapid physical and mental development, Mansel more than fulfilled the promise of his childhood.

Already equipped with an intellect, even in this incipient stage, far above the average, his assiduity very quickly placed him in advance of his contemporaries. He was possessed of a remarkable power of abstraction, which enabled him to pursue his studies in spite of any noise or racket ; but the other lads did not " rag " him as they are apt to do in such instances, for he had speedily ingratiated himself with them by reason of his amiable temper and pleasing personality ; and they probably realised, moreover, that Mansel was somewhat apart from the ordinary schoolboy. He was never very enthusiastic about games, though he did not decline to join in them. He is said to have displayed sometimes a violent temper, which, however, was always short-lived, and which he apparently outgrew as he advanced to manhood.

To his masters Mansel was a source of unalloyed delight ; his bright intellect, his amazing power of concentration and assimilation, his abnormal zeal and assiduity all combined, with his amiable and amenable temperament, to render him a model pupil. Moreover, as he approached adolescence, they were compelled to be on the watch, lest his active brain, his constant and intelligent cogitation upon many subjects, should place him in advance of his instructors, if not in precise knowledge, at least in some legitimate field of speculative thought.

His fame spread to St. John's while he was yet a schoolboy ; it was known that at the age of thirteen he had been a contributor to the *School Magazine*. " As time went on we heard more and more of him " : great things were expected of him when he should come

up to Oxford ; and, as will be seen, he did not fail to satisfy all expectations.

An extract from a letter of the Rev. Leopold Bernays, an old schoolfellow, may be quoted with advantage, as it sums up Mansel's character and attainments at this period of his life :

" I did not know him intimately until the last two years of our school time together—from the middle of 1837 to the June of 1839 in which year we were both elected to scholarships at St. John's. There was, during the greater part of that time, a close intimacy between our families, and I knew thoroughly all that was going on in his mind both at school and college. We were alike devoted to the reading of poetry, and the composition of verses of our own ; always comparing notes with one another, and mutually affording each other such help and criticism as we could. Mansel published a little volume of poems when he was seventeen, of more than schoolboy merit, which made him a sort of school hero. And although he never took to writing poetry as a serious occupation, he had a great power of expression, was an elegant versifier, and possessed very considerable humour, which superseded the somewhat severe tone of his earlier writings. His literary tastes were even then remarkable. He spent all his pocket-money on books, and possessed quite a large library of the English Poets. He sought after all the less-known writers at every bookstall. I often assisted him in hunting for scarce volumes. He had such a wonderful memory, that we used to say of him at school that if all the English Poets were lost Mansel would be able to reproduce them. He was always a great reader, and had few tastes to draw him off."

Archdeacon Hessey also writes :

" Already was he noted for the jocular epigrammatic power which he retained through life. His classical work of all kinds he got through with much ease ; and by consequence had so much time at his disposal, that those about him half thought he must be idle, until they were undeceived by finding that he knew what he had spent one hour upon, as well as they did what had cost them two."

The volume of poems above alluded to,¹ of which the title-

¹ "The Demons of the World and Other Poems," by H. L. Mansel. 1838.

piece is by far the most considerable, occupying nearly half of the pages, is not intrinsically of any great merit as a literary production ; it is, however, a somewhat remarkable performance for a lad of seventeen. The principal poem, " The Demons of the Winds," is original and romantic in conception, consistent in metaphor, correct and refined in versification and language ; and some of the shorter pieces are very pleasing, bearing evidence alike to deep thoughtfulness and refinement of mind, with not a little command of expression.

To go back a year or two, Mansel's father, the much beloved and respected rector of Cosgrove, died somewhat unexpectedly in March, 1835.

Henry was sent for in haste from school, but he arrived too late to see his father alive.

As in all similar instances, the pain of bereaval was sharpened by the necessity of quitting the rectory, the beloved scene of such happy family life, in order to make room for the newcomer.

A house in the village had been left to Mrs. Mansel to meet this eventuality ; but she did not immediately take up her residence there, living successively at Cheltenham, Buckingham, and Emberton, until, in 1838, her younger son Robert Stanley being then also at Merchant Taylors' School, she took up her abode in London to make a home for her boys, Henry remaining on as a day scholar until he went to college.

In this same year Mansel carried off the chief prize for English verse, and a medal, founded by Sir Moses Montefioré, for the encouragement of the study of Hebrew. Mansel was named in advance as the most probable winner of this distinction. As was his wont, he went in for it in earnest, reading in his spare time with a Rabbi, and richly merited his success.

On June 11, 1839, Mansel's school career terminated, and he went up for matriculation as a scholar of St. John's College, having won, besides the Hebrew medal, the prizes for Greek and Latin verse.

Thus commenced his connection with Oxford University, which was destined to continue unbroken for thirty years.

Mansel entered upon his university course with characteristic energy and thoroughness. He is said to have risen every morning at

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six o'clock, and for some time even two hours earlier ; and to have devised an arrangement by which an alarm clock operated a weight which pulled the bed-clothes off him.¹ He was induced, however, to abandon this four o'clock rising, as such long hours of application were obviously telling upon his health.

No trouble was too great, in his view, in the pursuit of the thorough mastery of any subject ; but he was by no means a recluse, and would keenly enjoy the society of a congenial companion, with whom he would discuss some subject which they had been reading, with an astonishing insight and acumen, as they tramped along together on a long walk. The thoroughness of his knowledge would frequently arouse the wonder of his friends as to how he had found the time to acquire it ; but this was Mansel's great asset : the power of using every moment of study to the best advantage—a faculty more rare, perhaps, than is commonly realised, and which, when combined with a powerful intellect and a retentive memory, constitutes, maybe, a more just definition of "genius" than the somewhat hackneyed phrase, "an infinite capacity of taking pains"—though Mansel was also liberally equipped in respect of this attribute.

Mansel's delightful temperament and ready wit also made him a most welcome addition to any gathering, whether of a genial or serious character. He was much courted and appreciated, but never spoiled or rendered conceited and arrogant by such spontaneous admiration.

The combination of such high intellectual gifts with almost heroic application naturally ensured a high place among the undergraduates ; indeed, there can be no question but that Mansel was by far the most brilliant scholar of his year.

During the last two years of his academical career, Mansel took up the study of Logic and Moral Science privately with James

¹ This ingenious device, thus actually employed by Mansel, was, a good many years later, made the subject of a humorous sketch in *Punch*, the widely-remembered sleeper being represented in a condition of ill-arrangement, his legs sticking out, and his hand in the futile grab at the receding coverlet. Poor old Mansel's admission to the inn, and was the occasion of the sketch.



FRANCIS SEXTON.

FRANCIS SEXTON.



G. WESTLEY.

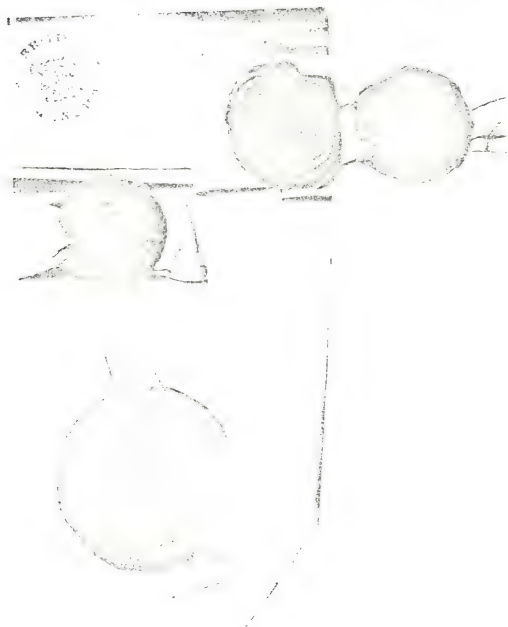
G. WESTLEY.

SEALS.

THOMAS MAUNSELL.

J. A. MANSELL.

NICH. MAUNSELL.



THOMAS MAUNSELL.

SEALS.

Hessey, then a lecturer at the College ;¹ and the "coach" is compelled to admit that his pupil "was in reality fitter to occupy the teacher's chair"—an experience which has befallen other teachers, in the universities and elsewhere.

Mansel's laborious and conscientious studies resulted, as might reasonably have been expected, in a "double-first" degree—*i.e.*, a first class both in Classics and Mathematics, the highest attainable honours.

It is characteristic of him that, in the *vivâ voce* examination, he took exception to the attitude involved in a question, touching moral and mental science, which was propounded by the examiner. He declined to accept what he held to be a false premiss, and proceeded, with a splendid disregard of their relative positions, to argue the point out with the examiner, who was apparently compelled to yield ! Truly, a most inconveniently capable candidate : by the time he had vanquished his foe in the field of moral and mental science, there was but little time left for history and poetry. Mansel's place on the class-list was, however, safe, and this remarkable passage of arms in no sense endangered it.

Mansel took his degree in the Easter term of 1843 ; and, had he followed up his original intention, he would immediately have sought ordination, and embarked upon a parochial career.

His father's death had, however, materially modified his prospects and his mother's circumstances, and he felt bound to pursue a course which, with his high attainments, was sure to be far more lucrative.

Returning to Oxford in the October term, he was immediately besieged by would-be pupils, and speedily became a famous and successful tutor ; nor did he suffer his own studies to lapse. Metaphysics, French, German, and English Divinity were assiduously pursued in the intervals of tuition. His fame as a teacher was meanwhile widely spread, until he was recognised as holding the foremost position of his time.

¹ James Augustus Hessey, eldest son of J. A. Hessey, of St. Peter's, London, Gent. Matriculated June 23, 1832 ; lecturer, 1839-1842 ; Archdeacon of Middlesex, and subsequently head-master of Merchant Taylors' School.

Many of his pupils rose to distinction in various departments of life ; the most eminent among them was the Earl of Carnarvon, who also took his degree,¹ ten years later, with the highest honours. His testimony to the high character and attainments of his former tutor and intimate friend, written about the year 1873, may well find a place here.

" My first acquaintance with Dean Mansel was made twenty years ago at the University, when he had everything to give, and I had everything to receive. As I think of him, his likeness seems to rise before me. In one of those picturesque and old-world colleges, in rooms which, if I remember rightly, on one side looked upon the collegiate quadrangle with its sober and meditative architecture, and on the other caught the play of light and shade cast by trees almost as venerable on the garden grass—in one of those rooms, whose walls were built up to the ceiling with books which nevertheless overflowed on the floor, and were piled in masses of disorderly order upon chairs and tables, might have been seen sitting day after day the late Dean, then my private tutor, and the most successful teacher of his time in the University. Young men are no bad judges of the capabilities of a teacher ; and those who sought the highest honours of the University in the Class schools thought themselves fortunate to secure instruction such as he gave, transparently lucid, accurate and without stint, flowing on through the whole morning continuously making the most complicated questions clear.

" But if, as chanced sometimes with me, they returned later as guests in the winter evening to the cheery and old-fashioned hospitality of the Common Room, they might have seen the same man the centre of conversation, full of anecdote and humour and wit, applying the resources of a prodigious memory and keen intellect to the genial intercourse of society. . . . Looked up to and trusted by his friends, he was viewed by his opponents as worthy of their highest antagonism, and whilst he reflected the qualities which the lovers of

¹ He married in 1874, and died on October 17, 1874, at the age of 41. He was buried in the family vault at St. Andrew's, London, in 1875, when he inherited the earldom.

an older system have delighted to honour, he freely expressed opinions which modern reformers select for their strongest condemnation. . . . Dean Mansel's mind was of the highest order. Its greatness, perhaps, was not such as best commands immediate popular recognition or sympathy, but it was not on that account the less powerful. The intellect was of such a kind that some may have failed to appreciate it, and to understand that they were close to a mind—almost the only mind in England—to which all the heights and all the depths of the recent speculation respecting the highest truth that can be grasped by the human understanding were perfectly familiar."

These are weighty words, and need careful perusal in order to realise their full import ; but they are probably very true words, as the testimony of other of Mansel's contemporaries entirely corroborates them.

Another friend writes: "In 1849 he contested the Chair of Logic with the late Professor Wall, and was largely supported. I was able to render him some aid in his canvass. This service he never forgot, and from that time our acquaintance passed into a friendship which continued without interruption until his death. In the various political and academic contests of the succeeding years, we were much together. To these I allude only for the purpose of mentioning one characteristic of him, viz., his extreme kindness and sweetness of disposition. In a period of controversy he opposed himself to parties and to principles—never to persons. With all his epigrammatic power, I cannot recall a single ungenerous or ungente expression towards any opponent.

"One more phase in his character must be noticed—his humbleness of mind. He was always ready to defer to others, and to weigh with patient attention the opinions of those but little entitled to advance them. In no man could there be less of self-assertion. It was the same with him in conversation. He never talked for *effect*, or sought an audience for the wit he uttered. His most brilliant sayings were also the most unpremeditated." ¹

¹ From the Rev. E. E. Turner, Fellow of Brasenose, Registrar of the University, January 3, 1874.

Similar testimony might be multiplied many times over ; but sufficient has perhaps been said in illustration of Mansel's beautiful character and high attainments.

On August 16, 1855, Mansel married Charlotte Augusta, third daughter of Daniel Taylor, Esq., of Clapham Common.

He had previously (in May) been elected Reader in Moral and Metaphysical Philosophy in Magdalen College ; and on this he felt himself justified in resigning his Fellowship at St. John's in order to get married—the tenure of a Fellowship at that time, of course, precluded marriage.

In 1859 he became the first "Waynflete Professor" ¹ in the same subjects, thereby vacating his Readership, according to the college ordinances ; as Waynflete Professor he was, however, re-elected professor-fellow of St. John's (under an ordinance of 1860). On his marriage he had entirely given up reading with private pupils, and lived at No. 87, High Street.

Mansel subsequently became known as one of the highest authorities upon Metaphysics, and a doughty champion of Christianity and Revelation against various materialists and others. Those whom he chiefly encountered were of the more formidable description : men of learning, whose subtle arguments demanded a controversialist to be well equipped to deal with them.

To treat of these matters in any detail would here be inappropriate and wearisome. Suffice it to say that Mansel's essays and letters are models of sound argument and of lucid literary style ; nor could his antagonists shake his position or convict him of error in any one instance. His wide reading, his immense and highly developed intellect, his lofty but always strictly logical attitude in dealing with these subjects, rendered his writings of more weight than, perhaps, those of any other living man ; and this view has been both tacitly and explicitly expressed in the comments of his contemporaries. ²

¹ Founded about 1859 in memory of the founder of Magdalen College—William Patten (or Patton), of Waynflete (1305?-1480), Bishop of Winchester and Chancellor of England. The stipend attached to the Readership was £200, but Mansel did not receive the full amount until 1862.

² A complete list of Dr. Mansel's writings will be found in App. II. of this volume.

As has already been remarked, Mansel was always a welcome acquisition to any social gathering, whether in the Common Room of the University, or in circles without the College precincts. His spontaneous *bonhomie*, his ready wit, his ability and good humour in discussion—and there were few subjects likely to come on the *tapis* at such gatherings upon which he was not fully competent to express opinion—combined to render his presence most acceptable; and when he spoke, whether in jest or in earnest, every eye was turned upon him, every ear attentive.

He was a very ready punster of the higher order—though his friends are compelled to admit that some of his puns were atrocious. This, however, is inevitable, even in the case of so brilliant a man as Mansel: the habit of punning necessarily involves the occasional perpetration of "atrocities"—fortunate if it be only *occasional*!

Mansel's puns and other witticisms were always spontaneous, without premeditation or the effort for effect, and sometimes they were very witty and pungent, but never ill-natured. Some apology is perhaps due for the insertion of a few samples here; the excuse must be that they tend to illustrate more completely, in its lighter vein, the character of a very remarkable man.

When Mansel was dining out on one occasion, the *menu* contained the item "Cutlets à la Réforme." Someone said to Mansel (who was, of course, a strong Conservative), "You cannot eat Reform cutlets." The host pointed out that the word was differently spelled, with an "e" at the end. "Ah," said Mansel, "but Reform often ends in *émute*"—purposely mispronouncing it "e mute."

His friend Professor Chandler, as they were passing the statue in a niche on the Clarendon building in Oxford, remarked, "Somebody told me the other day that the statue has no back to it—that it is a mere shell." "You mean," said Mansel, "that it is the *Hyde* without the *Clarendon*"—really a very neat pun.

Someone whom he was showing round St. Paul's Cathedral asked, pointing to a huge figure of Neptune on a monument: "What has *that* got to do with Christianity?" Mansel suggested: "*Tridentine* Christianity, perhaps."

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Sometimes his witticisms were in the form of verse. There was some controversy concerning the conditions of qualification for the degree of Doctor in Divinity, which had lapsed into a perfunctory form: and it was proposed that in future two Theological Dissertations should be required of the aspirant for the honour. Mansel was sitting in the Council and while the point was being discussed he wrote on a slip of paper and passed to his neighbour the following:

"The degree of 'D.D.'
'Tis proposed to convey
To an 'A double S'
By a double Essay."

Mansel was Bampton Lecturer in 1858, "Select Preacher" from October, 1860, to June, 1862, and again from October, 1869, to June, 1871. At the end of 1866 he was appointed Regius Professor of Ecclesiastical History in the University, a post which carried with it a canonry and residence at Christchurch, where Mansel and his wife in due course took up their abode.

Mansel's Bampton Lectures were, as might be expected, of an exceptionally high order: they were published under the title "Limits of Religious Thought."¹

In the spring of 1865 Mansel was persuaded to go abroad for three months, as his constant and strenuous mental activity was obviously telling upon his health. He and Mrs. Mansel went to Rome, and other places in Italy, returning in the middle of June.

In 1868 Mr. Disraeli, then prime minister, proposed to Mansel that his name should be submitted to the queen for the Deanery of St. Paul's, an offer which was gladly accepted. Much as he loved Oxford, he had latterly been very apprehensive for the future of the University, and, moreover, his brain was being constantly overworked, to the detriment of his physical state.

He found his new office by no means a sinecure; there was a vast amount of work to be done in connection, among other matters,

¹ The Bampton Lectures were, as stated under the will of John Bampton (1690-1751), divine, of Trinity College, Oxford: "and the lecture were to be delivered upon Sundays in each year, "to confirm and establish the Christian Faith," etc. The lecturer was selected annually by the heads of the colleges, and received £120; the lectures were to be published within two months of delivery.

with the commutation of the Cathedral estates ; the decoration of the interior of the Cathedral also had been for some time under contemplation, and Mansel resolved to give the scheme a fresh impulse. In response to his appeal more than £35,000 was subscribed within a year : he did not, however, live to see any practical result.

He went down each year for a six weeks' holiday to his brother-in-law, John Christopher Mansel, at Cosgrove Hall. It was a keen delight to visit the scenes of his happy boyhood and youth ; but the term " holiday " could scarcely with justice be applied to these visits : he gave himself no real relaxation, and was constantly being summoned to London on some matter connected with St. Paul's.

On July 15, 1871, Dr. and Mrs. Mansel arrived at Cosgrove Hall upon their annual visit. It was observed by his wife and those about him that he seemed to be more weary and oppressed than usual ; but they had no doubt that the country air and rest would soon recuperate him.

On July 22 he went to Oxford to attend the Magdalen Commemoration ; and he is said on that occasion to have surpassed himself in the fluency and felicity of his utterances. This was a Saturday : he returned to Cosgrove on Monday and on the following Sunday—July 30—after attending morning and afternoon service, he went early to bed, as was his habit—and from that bed he was destined not to rise again. He died very quietly between ten and eleven, death being due to the rupture of a blood-vessel in the brain.

So passed away this very good and learned man, of whom the family has more reason to be proud, perhaps, than of any other member who has gone before.

Gifted with immense intellectual powers, he always employed them to the noblest ends : the advancement of truth, the interests of religion as he conceived of it—and his conception was in all essentials a very fine and consistent one—and the good of mankind. No one ever had a harsh word to say of him, nor he of others ; he died as he had lived, in peace and kindness with all the world ; and, since it was ordained that death should come thus suddenly and unexpectedly, it

was surely good that it should come while he was in those surroundings for which he never lost his deep affection.

He was buried, as he had desired—and, rather strangely, had reiterated his desire only two days before his death, as he and Mrs. Mansel passed the spot—beside his father.

In the North Chapel in St. Paul's there is a stained glass window to Dean Mansel, with an inscription in Latin by Archdeacon Hessey : which, with a translation attached, will be found, together with the list of Mansel's writings, in the Appendix.

It may be of interest to state that Dean Mansel's father was appointed domestic chaplain to Frederick, Duke of York. The original warrant is extant at Cosgrove : it is not dated, apparently, but the appointment must have been made some time prior to the year 1827, when the Duke of York died. Possibly this favour was conferred in memory of General John Mansel, his father, who was killed at Cateau when fighting under the duke's command, as already described.

Dean Mansel's brother, Robert Stanley Mansel, made his mark as a railway manager : a notice appeared in *Herapath's Railway Journal* at the time of his death, which is here appended :

" On the sixth of last month there died of pneumonia, at his residence in Devonshire Pl., Mr. Robert S. Mansel, one of the most unobtrusive but most useful of railway managers of the present generation. His railway experience both in the administrative and executive departments was larger and more varied than falls to the lot of most railway men ; his powers of mind fitted him for almost any position ; whatever he undertook he did as well as it could be done. His ability was of the class which made M. Huish, C. W. Eborall, Seymour Clarke, W. Cawkwell, and E. W. Watkin conspicuous among their fellow workers, but the modesty of his rethining character restrained him from seeking prominence ; his merits led others to seek him out. Hard-working, industrious, straightforward in his dealings, his judgment in questions between man and man was appreciated by his superiors and equals, and accepted by his inferiors in cases where justice and fair play had to be executed. His intimate acquaintance with railway forms and records, and his knowledge of the scope and bearing of railway agreements, have caused his advice to be sought, and well qualified him to act as arbitrator in disputed matters. Strong in purpose without obstinacy, and firm in his own



Dr. H. L. MANSEL, D.D.,
Dean of St. Paul's.
Born 6 October, 1826; died 30 July, 1871.



ROBERT STANLEY MANSELL.

Railway Manager.

Born 1826; died 1881.

convictions, he set his mark on many railway improvements, unrecognised as his handiwork. He was an even-tempered man, who never said a harsh word; a genial, agreeable companion with a ready fund of anecdote and pleasantries, as all his associates can testify; and with a legion of friends, he never knowingly made an enemy, as his sterling qualities never deserved to have one. A host of testimonials from all ranks and conditions of men evidences the opinions of his contemporaries.

“ Mr. Mansel was born in 1826 at Cosgrove in Northamptonshire, of which locality his father was rector, and of an ancient family of high standing in the county. Educated at Merchant Taylors’ School, in early life he was attached to an eminent firm of locomotive builders, Messrs. Bury, Curtis & Kennedy, of Manchester; here he learned practical mechanical engineering, working at the bench and the lathe, and was required to drive the locomotives he helped to construct for a certain number of miles before they were accepted as satisfactory.

“ Owing to his father’s death he was compelled, while still young, to strive for himself. The Liverpool, Crosby, and Southport Railway was at this time being constructed. He was appointed its secretary, and afterwards the line was worked under his management. This short railway of 18 or 19 miles was subsequently leased by the Lancashire and Yorkshire Company, and formed part of that system. In 1852 Mr. Mansel, at the age of 26, was selected to be secretary of the Chester and Holyhead Railway, the late Mr. J. O. Binger being traffic manager. In March 1856 this line was amalgamated with the London and North Western Company. The negotiations to accomplish this were principally conducted by Mr. Mansel, and although the Shareholders acknowledged his services they perhaps never knew to what extent their interests had been protected by his foresight and judgment. On the amalgamation the London and North Western, recognising Mr. Mansel’s ability, appointed him to the important post of traffic superintendent for the Liverpool district, which comprised perhaps the most valuable division of their system, Mr. Binger being named superintendent of the Chester division.

“ The London and North Western Company held the greater part of the North London Railway capital in 1862, and selected Mr. Mansel for the office of secretary and manager of that line, on the resignation of Mr. Harry Chubb, the duties of which he fulfilled until his resignation, on the score of bad health, in 1879. His services to the North London Company were warmly acknowledged by the Directors in their half-yearly report to their Shareholders.

“ In 1879 he was elected a Director of the Great Western Railway of Canada, the vacancy being caused by Mr. Childers’ retire-

ment. In the autumn of that year he visited Canada with two of his colleagues at the Board, and contributed to bring to a successful issue some delicate negotiations then pending.

"Mr. Mansel was also a Director of the North and South West Junction Railway, a short connecting link from Willesden to Kew and Hammersmith, worked jointly by the London and North Western and the South Western Railways.

"Dr. Henry L. Mansel, Dean of St. Paul's, and author of several works on logic and metaphysics, was his brother. His uncle, on his mother's side, was Admiral C. R. Moorsom, some time deputy-chairman of the London and North Western Railway.

"Later in life Mr. R. S. Mansel inherited considerable property in the north of England, which thereafter rendered his railway work a labour of love rather than of necessity.

"Mr. Mansel proposed and carried out the Poplar Dock scheme which has proved so remunerative for the London and North Western Company."

On Mr. Mansel's retirement, in 1879, from the managership of the North London Railway, he was presented by the officials and employes of the company with a handsome silver loving-cup and an illuminated address. A brass tablet has been placed to his memory in Marylebone Church.

General John Mansel's second son, Robert, was an officer in the Royal Navy, and eventually became an admiral.¹

In the year 1801 Mansel was in command of the *Penguin*, of eighteen guns, and on February 18 in that year he fought an action against great odds, and succeeded in maiming and beating off the enemy, though his own vessel was so much damaged aloft that he was unable to pursue him.

The action is thus summarised in "The Royal Navy":

"On February 18th, in the Southern Atlantic, the British *Penguin*, 18, Captain Robert Mansel, fought a sharp action with three unknown French ships, one looking like a corvette, and the other two apparently merchantmen. The *Penguin* gave chase, and compelled one of them to strike. On this she was assailed by the corvette, and was so damaged in masts and rigging that she could not pursue her

¹ Mansel's name appears in the Navy List for 1817—the year before his death—as a rear-admiral, with seniority to the rank of July 22, 1810. On the occasion of the *Penguin* action he was just promoted to "post-captain," but had not received his commission in the rank.

antagonists, who then sheered off. Her foremast went overboard, but her loss was only one man wounded." ¹

A letter, from an officer of the *Penguin*, which appeared in the *Naval Chronicle* of the same year, gives a more detailed account of the action. It is dated April 7, Lat. 2° 31' S., Long. 21° 15' W.:

"On the 18th February we observed three ships in chase of us, one of which came up very fast. We shortened sail to receive her, when she made signals to her consorts, and lay to, to wait for them. They soon came up to her, when they formed in line and hoisted French colours. We made no scruple to attack them, and as we neared each other we found they were a corvette of 24 guns, and two large ships of 18 guns each. A hard match for our 18 guns. However, when we came within musket shot we exchanged broad-sides with the three. The broadside of one of the armed ships told as heavily as that of the corvette. The action continued three hours, when we got the weather gage of the sternmost ship, and bore up to cut her off. We succeeded in breaking the line and throwing them into confusion, and having got close under the lee of the large ship, she bore up with the intention of running us down, but a well-directed fire when about half-pistol shot from her obliged her to strike her colours, let fly everything, and hail for quarter. The other two bore down to her assistance, and after a fight for about an hour in the dusk, we had the misfortune to lose our foretopmast, which fell in such direction that the whole foreyard became useless, which, together with the disabled state of the rigging and our sails all cut to pieces and on fire, made the brig quite ungovernable. But Captain Mansel, just on the crack of the topmast, took hold of the hand of the man next him, and the whole crew followed his example. There was a moment of awful silence, not a word was spoken, but we all knew what it meant—to stand to each other to the last, and never to strike. Three cheers for our brave captain followed. Our enemy, however, soon got enough of it, for, taking advantage of the dark night and our shattered condition, they made off. We repaired our rigging in the night and next day pursued them into Teneriffe. We luckily had no one killed and only a few wounded. Yesterday we fell in with a Swedish East Indiaman, which we detained, and by whom you will receive this letter."

From the Captain's log of the *Penguin*, it appears that the action took place on February 19; the enemy was not sighted until late in the afternoon, and it was about 5.30 when he fired a gun and

¹ "The Royal Navy," by W. Laird Clowes. Vol. iv., p. 537.

hoisted French colours ; so the greater part of the fight—which was not over until about 9.45 p.m.—took place in the dark.

Moreover, the scene of the action was not the *Southern Atlantic*, as stated in "The Royal Navy," but the North Atlantic. The *Penguin's* position at noon on February 19 was thirty-four miles south-west from Palma, in the Canary Islands, which renders more explicable the statement that Captain Mansel on the following day chased the enemy into Teneriffe. This, however, is not mentioned in the log ; on the contrary, the *Penguin's* course, after repairing damages, was directed to the south-westward : she anchored afterwards at St. Jago, in the Cape Verde Islands, whence she made her course for the Cape of Good Hope. On April 7, the date of the letter from an officer, given above, she was a little south of the equator on her way thither, which accords with the statement in Marshall's "Biography" that she sailed from the Cape in May following.

The account of the action in the Captain's log is essentially the same as that in the officer's letter, though there is not, of course, any allusion to the thrilling moment when the foretopmast went by the board, and the crew grasped hands as a pledge of "no surrender." There are many such moments in battle, ashore and afloat, which find no mention in official despatches, but are told in the attentive ear of wife or brother, child or sweetheart.

In Marshall's "Royal Naval Biography" there is an account of Robert Mansel's services : "He entered the naval service as a midshipman on board the *Sampson*, 64, bearing the flag of Vice-Admiral Milbanke, in 1784 ; sailed for the West Indies with Captain Peter Rainier in the *Astrea* frigate about October 1786 ; removed with that officer into the *Monarch*, 74, at the period of the Spanish armament ; and subsequently accompanied him into the Suffolk of similar force, from which latter ship he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in November 1793. His first appointment as such was to *La Prompte*, of 20 guns, commanded by Captain Taylor, under whom he afterwards served as senior Lieutenant of the *Andromeda* frigate, on the North Sea, Newfoundland, and Halifax stations. In 1797 we find Lieutenant Mansel serving as first of the *Leopoldo*, Captain Thomas Surridge, under the orders of Admiral Duncan ;

from which ship he appears to have been appointed to the *Mary* yacht, when our late monarch made an attempt to visit his fleet at the Nore.¹ His advancement to the rank of Commander took place in 1798. Captain Mansel commanded the *Adventure*, armed *en flûte*, during the expeditions against the *Helder* and *Quiberon*, and subsequently the *Penguin* of 18 guns. . . . In May following (1801) Captain Mansel sailed from the Cape of Good Hope, with three vessels under his convoy, bound to the Red Sea, but was compelled to put back in consequence of a heavy gale, during which two of the vessels parted company, and are supposed to have sunk. On his return he found himself promoted to post rank, by commission bearing date 14 February, 1801, and accordingly took passage to England in the *Adonant*, of 50 guns. Soon after his arrival Captain Mansel was appointed to the *Berschermer*, 50, the command of which he retained until December, 1803, when he received a severe wound by the splitting of the maintopsail clew-line block, one half of which in its descent towards the deck struck him on his head, and rendered him incapable of serving any longer afloat. In addition to this severe injury, by which Captain Mansel was doomed to a state of inactivity during the late war, he was four times slightly wounded in the service of his country."²

This mishap accounts for the long period between Mansel's last employment and his death in 1838.

After his retirement Admiral Mansel lived at Charlton Kings, near Cheltenham, until his death. Charlton Kings has known Mansells in the past, as noticed in the first volume of this work, in the chapter upon the Gloucestershire Maunsells. In Bigland's "Gloucestershire" the name is spelled *Mansell*.

The admiral lived at Charlton Park, of which an illustration is here given; but when he became possessed of it, or to whom it afterwards passed, is not clear; according to the Gloucestershire Directory for 1914, it belonged in that year to Albert Brassey, Esq.

¹ On October 30, 1797, George III. embarked in the *Royal Charlotte* yacht to visit the fleet under Admiral Duncan, after the victory over the Dutch. The wind, however, was foul, and the king was compelled to put back to Gravesend.

² "Royal Naval Biography," by John Marshall. Vol. ii., pp. 360-62.

Another son of General Mansel distinguished himself in a less admirable fashion.

This was Captain George Mansel, of the 25th Light Dragoons ; there is an account in Northamptonshire " Notes and Queries " of some escapades of his, which elicited a memorial from the mayor and Council of Northampton to the Duke of York.

These gentlemen were very weak in the matter of spelling and composition, and their effusion called forth some humorous comment from Charles Markham, afterwards Clerk of the Peace for the county. He proceeds :

" Captain Mansel of the 25th Light Dragoons having on some account or other rendered himself obnoxious to the Mayor and Corporation of the Town of Northampton, they thought proper in October last (1806) to transmit the following Memorial, complaining of his conduct.

" The Mayor and Corporation were considerably embarrassed how to spell the word ' combustible,' when one of them assured the meeting that ' cum ' was ' com ' ; and thus the orthography of the word was accordingly fixed, to the entire satisfaction of his Worship, etc., etc. A gentleman of known orthographic talents is now composing a Spelling Book, which he intends to dedicate to the Mayor and Corporation of the Town of Northampton."

Then follows the memorial. Captain Mansel had been sent to Northampton for the purpose of obtaining recruits, and he appears to have arrived at the conclusion that the best way of proceeding, with this object in view, was to indulge in various noisy antics which are tersely, if somewhat vulgarly summed up, in the modern phrase, " painting the town red."

" Field Marshall His Royal Highness the Duke of York, etc. etc. The Memorial of the Mayor and Magistrates of the Town of Northampton Humbly Sheweth—

" That your Royal Highness Memorialists are under the necessity of stating the disorderly conduct of Captain Mansel of the 25th Light Dragoons now recruiting here.

" That Captain Mansel having taken a ready furnished house, in one of the principle streets of this Town, makes a constant practice of having a number of disorderly Persons frequent his House and in

the dead of the Night by beating Drums and otherwise making a great noise and disturbance, thereby annoys and alarms the whole Neighborhood, added to this, Captain Mansel and his associates are very frequently in the Habits of discharging Numbers of Fire-Works, loaded with combustible matter, which in many instances, have very nearly involved the Town in a general conflagration. The frequent transactions have so seriously alarmed the whole Neighborhood, that a general complaint has been made to us, from a great number of the respectable Persons residing on the Spot. Captain Mansel has been admonished of these practices to no Effect. He perseveres in the same conduct; and the Authority of the Civil Power appears to us insufficient to restrain him.

"Your Memorialists therefore humbly request that your Royal Highness will be pleased to recall or remove Captain Mansel; or otherwise by your Royal Highness' Interference check these disorders and thereby prevent the ill consequences which may otherwise take place.

"Which is humbly submitted.

"JOSHUA COOCH, *Mayor*.

"WM. KING.

"T. HALL."

"*Northampton, 22nd Oct. 1806.*"

"(A true copy).

"NICHOLAS SOREL, *Lieutenant and*
"*Adjutant of the Bedford District.*"

The Mayor's Memorial appears to have been preserved in this copy chiefly by reason of Mr. Charles Markham's sarcasm concerning its literary demerits; and it certainly is very ill-spelled and clumsily composed.

Captain Mansel apparently went with his regiment—including probably his very noisy Northampton recruits—to India not long afterwards, as he died in 1808 while on his return voyage thence.

John Christopher Mansel, eldest son of Major Mansel, appears to have held the ancient office of "Verderor" for Whittlebury Forest. "The verderors are judicial officers elected by the freeholders of the county by the king's writ, and sworn to maintain the laws of the forest . . . since the abolition or cessation of the forestial courts, they are honorary rather than efficient officers. There were usually four verderors in each forest, but they are now, and have been for many years past, reduced to two. They are

selected from the gentry of the county, and the present verderors are John Christopher Mansel, of Cosgrove, Esq., and the Hon. Henry Hely Hutchinson, of Weston by Wedon. They receive no salary, but have severally half an acre of underwood in every coppice whenever it is cut, and a fee buck and doe each yearly."¹

In the *London Gazette*, October 8, 1688, appears an advertisement by Edward Mansel of Cosgrove, offering 20s. reward for the recovery of a horse; notice to be given either to Edward Mansel, or "to Mr. John Mansel, grocer, at the White Lyon in Wood Street."²

This may have been Edward's second son, John, of London (see pedigree); probably of the Grocers' Guild.

His eldest son, Edward, was vicar of Ecclesfield, five miles from Sheffield, as shown in the pedigree, from 1691 until his death in 1704. He appears to have been highly esteemed, and is alluded to in a poem by a contemporary parson—the Rev. Henry Parke, curate of Wentworth—as "Judicious Mansel, grave and holy." Mansel rebuilt the vicarage in 1695, and placed over the door the following inscription:

"Edward Mansel, Vicar 1695.

Nemo soli sibi Natus.

Vivat Rex.

Floreat Ecclesia."

The vicarage was again rebuilt in 1825, but this inscription was retained.

Mr. Mansel, in his will, bequeathed certain lands in the neighbourhood to the successive vicars of Ecclesfield in perpetuity, on condition "that upon every Sunday during summer time they preach or cause to be preached a sermon in the church, or expound the catechism": failing which, the funds are to go to the churchwardens and overseers of the poor. Doubtless the sermons were punctually delivered as stipulated.

¹ "History of Northamptonshire," by George Baker, Vol. iii. p. 80. It has been assumed that this John Christopher, and not his father, is here indicated, though the paragraph was probably written before 1870, the year of Mr. Mansel's death. He would, however, almost certainly have been alluded to by his military title.

² *Gen. Mag.*, vol. c., p. 514.

REV. J. CHRISTOPHER MANSELL.

Rector of Gosgrave.

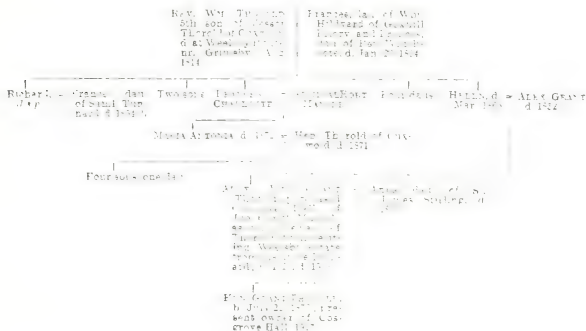
Born 1 September 1813; died 27 May, 1895.

MAUNSELLS (MANSELS) OF COSGROVE 329

Mr. Mansel framed "off his own bat" a form of catechism, entitled "Questions and Proofs out of the Scriptures, composed for the benefit of Youth."

He died January 26, 1704. There is a tablet with a Latin inscription to him in the church, including also the name of his infant daughter, Frances—his only child—who died December 28, 1698, aged fifteen months.¹

John Christopher Mansel sold Cosgrove Hall to Alexander William Grant, Esq., whose mother, Helen Thorold, was sister to Frances Charlotte, wife of Admiral Robert Mansel; the several connections are clearly illustrated in the following sketch pedigree.



(Cosgrove Hall was leased for some years to the Dowager Countess Temple [née Helen Mabel Montgomery, daughter of Sir Graham Montgomery], and in Burke's Peerage she is named at the time of her marriage, in 1870, as "of Cosgrove Hall, Stony Stratford"; this, however, is an error.)

¹ "History of the Parish of Ecclefield," by Rev. Jonathan Luxwood: pp. 202, 203, 314.

CHAPTER VII

The Yorkshire Maunsells

THERE is abundant evidence in various official and other records of the existence of many Maunsells in Yorkshire, but there is very scanty material available in elucidation of their mutual relationship. Here and there a lawsuit, fines, or other data serve to establish a family group of, perhaps, two or three generations, but the records, in most instances, merely prove the existence of certain individuals at some stated periods, leaving them isolated.

The construction of a full pedigree of Yorkshire Maunsells is therefore obviously a very difficult, in fact an impossible task. The most that can be achieved is the record of the existence of these persons, and the linking of them up, wherever this is possible, in detached family sections.

The earliest record with regard to Maunsells in this county, so far as can be ascertained, appears in *Liber Niger Scaccarii* and the "Red Book of the Exchequer"—an identical record, stating that Robert Maunsell held lands in one knight's fee of the Archbishop of York in the year 1166.¹

This Robert is mentioned in Gabriel Ogilvy's pedigree, and is placed as—presumably—grandson of Richard Mansel Cenomannicus, who gave lands to the Priory of Brecknock in the year 1088. There does not, however, appear to be any evidence which justifies the assumption of this derivation. The Mansels with whom Ogilvy is here dealing are located in Wales, or in the Marches of Wales. William Mansel, apparently brother to Robert, is stated—quite correctly—to have held lands in the same year of Henry Newmarch; but in the Exchequer books Robert is placed under Yorkshire, and

¹ *Liber Niger Scaccarii*. Vol. i, p. 304. "The Red Book of the Exchequer." Vol. ii, p. 414.

William under Gloucester, while both are derived by Ogilvy from the aforesaid Richard Cenomaniacus, who, as has already been demonstrated, is more or less apocryphal.¹ There does not, in fact, appear to be any enlightenment available from Gabriel Ogilvy concerning the derivation of Robert; he and William are here placed by Ogilvy, who gives the references which testify to their existence in 1166; but there is not the smallest evidence to justify the connection of Robert with Wales or Gloucester; he is placed, apparently at random, as the brother of William.

Robert must therefore be held to have been of Yorkshire; but there is no evidence to show where he was located.

There is one Thomas Maunsell, a contemporary of Robert, or possibly of earlier date, who occurs as witness to several grants or charters which were executed apparently during the episcopate of Bishop Hugo of Durham, 1153-1164; they are not dated, so they may be of any year within these limits. Gerard Maunsell also witnesses one of them.

There does not appear to be any further information available concerning Thomas and Gerard; but their existence at this period, together with Robert, seems to point to an earlier entry of the Maunsells into Yorkshire; possibly Robert was the son of Thomas. If the grants in question were executed early in Bishop Hugo's episcopate, this might very easily have been the case, but there is nothing decisive about the matter.

In "The History of Yorkshire," by Plantagenet Harrison, there is a "Pedigree of the Family of Maunsell," which starts from "Robert le Maunsell, held one knight's fee in the county of York *temp.* Henry I. and King Stephen"; and this Robert is given a son, "Robert Maunsell *temp.* Hen. II." This appears to point to the tenure of land by one Robert prior to the year 1166; but he may very well have been identical with Robert of the Exchequer records above alluded to; and there is no allusion to tenure of land by the son Robert. Whether or not Robert the first-mentioned was the pioneer of the Maunsells in Yorkshire is uncertain; it is quite probable that he was not, but his derivation is unknown.

¹ See vol. i., p. 61, and App. I., second column of pedigree.

W

SIR RICH
King)
knights
attendi
III.

WILLIAM MAUNSELL,
surety for Richard
Hen. III.

Agnes Maunsell, widow of the
manor of Redbur, Spaxa-Gil-
ling in right of his wife, 30
Hen. III.

= Juliana, dau. of
Rich. de Bern-
ingham, m. 36
Hen. III. (1251)

Juliana, dau. of
Rich. de Bern-

son, dau. and co-heir E —, dau. and co-heir

Agnes, 1st = Margaret, and
2nd = Alice, wid.,
8 Ed. III.;
Edward, dower
m. Newton
Marcell

THOMAS MAUNSELL,
III., claimed the
Rokeby curtilage
was plaintiff in
against Agnes, d.
had considerable
touching lands in
Gilling, 33 Ed. I.

Juliana, dau. of the first =
Agnes, 1st = Margaret, and
2nd = Alice, wid.,
8 Ed. III.;
Edward, dower
m. Newton
Marcell

ADAM MAUNSELL, p.
de Richmond, p.
with Richard de B.
and with Juliana
Richard de Bern

son of Thomas,
de Richmond,
William de

Agnes, 1st = Margaret, and
2nd = Alice, wid.,
8 Ed. III.;
Edward, dower
m. Newton
Marcell

= Alicia, dau.
of Roger de
Berningham
6 Ed. I.

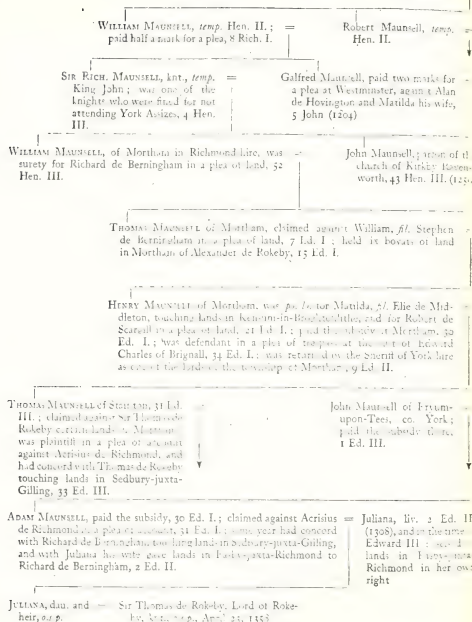
JULIANA, dau. and
heir, *o.s.p.*

Juliana, dau. of the first =
Agnes, 1st = Margaret, and
2nd = Alice, wid.,
8 Ed. III.;
Edward, dower
m. Newton
Marcell

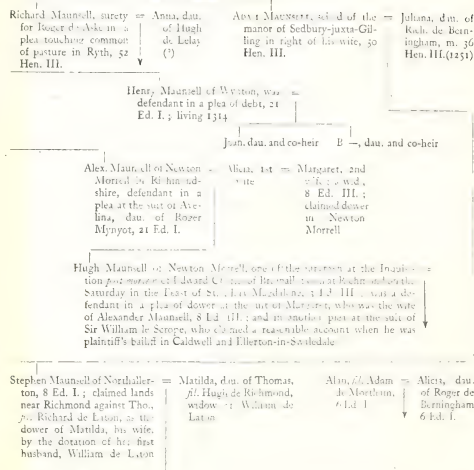
PLANTAGENET HA

RRISON'S PEDIGREE

ROBERT DE MAUNSELL, head of knight's fee in the county of York, temp. Henry I. and King Stephen



= Beatrice (?)



Beatrice, dau. and heir, to whom at her marriage her father gave six toles, and when he died she was buried in the church of St. Mary, at Catterick, *juxta* Catterick, by the gift of her father

Harrison's pedigree is here transmitted as being of considerable interest, though it is not very informative; it appears to be well authenticated as far as it goes, but it must be admitted that the author's references have not been actually verified, save in one or two instances. The pedigree is indeterminate; we are left in doubt as to whether the line from Robert, *temp.* Henry I. and King Stephen, became extinct with the daughters of Adam and Stephen, who married respectively Sir Thomas de Rokeby and William de Burgh, or was carried on by the issue of one or more of the Maunsells who come earlier, and whose offspring is not indicated, though they apparently had children. The obvious inference is that the author was unable to trace them.¹

The Maunsells were known for several generations, according to this pedigree, as "of Mutton," the Lord of Rokeby also holding lands therein. The connection of the Maunsells with this manor apparently ceased with the marriage of Juliana, daughter and heir of Adam Maunsell, with Sir Thomas de Rokeby, Lord of Rokeby, who was afterwards Chief Justice of Ireland, and died there, without issue, April 23, 1358²; the line of the Rokebys was continued from his younger brother, Robert. The Rokeby estates were purchased in 1611 by William Robinson, citizen and haberdasher of London, and were sold by his descendant, Sir Thomas Robinson, to John Morrill in 1770.

Robert le Maunsell, who heads the pedigree, is credited with a son William, who paid half a mark for a plea, 8 Richard I. (1197), this William may be identical with William who is misplaced by R. G. Maunsell as fifth son of Sir Robert the Crusader, and who was of Bucks, Beds, and Leicester.³ The Archbishops of York held lands

¹ "The History of Yorkshire" by Marshal-General Plantagenet Harrison, H.K.G., 1879; p. 419. The author gives a pedigree of his own family, tracing his descent from Odin, King of A garden, "about seventy-six years before the birth of Christ." He heads the Maunsell pedigree with a coat-arms description: "Sable, a chevron between three manacles, ermine." The tricked coat displays, however, three *maunche* ermine. The confusion between maunche and manacle is quite inexcusable; the latter is a handcuff, as dissimilar from the maunche as it is possible to be. This blunder discredits the coat entirely; not is there any record elsewhere of a Maunsell bearing three manacles ermine.

² Rokeby pedigree. *Ibid.*, p. 419.

³ See vol. i., p. 71.

in Leicestershire for many years, and William may have been in this manner connected with Yorkshire; his wife's name is not given in the pedigree.

In the years 1210-1212 there is a Robert Maunsell who held lands *in capite* of the king in Yorkshire, and by *serjeanty* in the same period; in which also Robert Maunsell paid one knight's fee for lands in Leicestershire;¹ so that here is another link between the two counties, if these Roberts are identical—which of course is not by any means certain.

In the *Coram Rege* Rolls there is mention of several Yorkshire Maunsells.

Richard, 3 Henry III. (1219) is probably identical with Sir Richard in the pedigree, who is said to have been fined for not attending York assizes.

Richard, probably his son, had an agreement in 1247 with Hugh de Leloy and Anne his wife touching the manor of Methelgh, which the said Richard was to have on his marriage with Anna, daughter of the said Hugh and Anne.

John Maunsell, parson of Kirkby Ravensworth, had litigation in 1250 with Bryan Pycot and Cassandra his wife concerning lands in Neusum (Newsome), which he claimed as pertaining to the church. This John is placed by Harrison as the son of Sir Richard, *temp.* Henry III., upon what authority does not appear, but it is quite probable that he was so.

In 1266 Richard le Poer had a plea against Ralph Maunsell at York, and there was agreement between Richard, son of Gamel, father of the said Richard, and Beatrice, who was wife of Galfridus Maunsell, grandmother of the said Ralph, whose heir he is.

This may very well be Galfridus who appears in Harrison's pedigree as the son of William Maunsell.

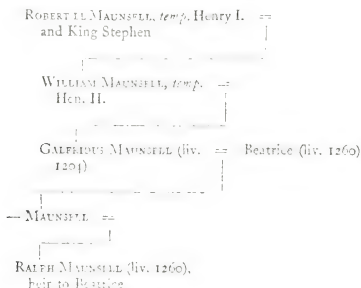
Beatrice may have been related to Richard le Poer.

In 1279 Osbert de Arcubus had a suit against Annam de Kelly, concerning the custody of Edmund, son and heir of Richard Maunsell, who held land in some locality (name illegible) by military service.

¹ *Red Book of the Exchequer*, vol. i. p. 124, 125, 126.

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In 1240 Thomas Maunsell had a suit against Basilia, wife of Robert de Berkeworth, concerning lands in Towneley.



The volume embodying what is familiarly known as "Kirkby's Inquest," and "Nomina Villatum" for the county of York contains numerous allusions to the Maunsell family,¹ supplemented in several instances by further information of a later date in footnotes.

From these records we learn that one Edmund Maunsell claimed, in the year 1300, a third part of the lands of Aston, in Yorkshire, as son and heir of Alice, one of the three sisters of Osbert de Arches; he brought his action in 1312, but when the cause came to a hearing the jury found that Alice was a bastard, and Edmund was consequently "in mercy," i.e., non-suited. This incident is evidently connected with the suit of Osbert de Arcubus against Annam de Kelly, quoted above; Arcubus is the Latin equivalent of the surname Arches, so it is apparent that Osbert claimed the

¹ "The Survey of the County of York," taken by John de Kirkby. John Kirkby (d. 1290) was a prominent cleric of the time of Edward I. He held the Great Seal repeatedly, and about the year 1282 the king, being in much need of money by reason of the expense of the Welsh wars, despatched Kirkby on an inquest or commission throughout England, to ascertain the holdings of land, etc., and to collect money. The Inquest of Yorkshire was made about the year 1285, as is testified by internal evidence (see preface to "Kirkby's Inquest"). Kirkby was rewarded for his services—he was a very successful collector of money. At the time of the Inquest the Maunsell family were lords of the manor of Aston. At the time of the Inquest the Maunsell family were lords of the manor of Aston. At the time of the Inquest the Maunsell family were lords of the manor of Aston.

guardianship of the son—Edmund—of his half-sister, Alice, who was married to Richard Maunsell. It is probably this same Edmund who, in 1285, held one carucate¹ of land in Naburn of Richard de Malbyse, who held it of the Earl of Cornwall,² who held it in capite of the king.

There is mention in Kirkby's Inquest of the connection of the Maunsells with Brudeford (Birdforth) in the year 1285: "In the vill of Brudeford are four carucates of land, of which Henry Maunsell holds two carucates of land of Ranulph de Nevill, and Ranulph of John Maunsell, and the remaining two carucates the said John holds of Edmund Maunsell, and the said Edmund of Richard Malbyse, and the said Richard of Edmund Earl of Cornwall, and the said Earl *in capite* of the King in the honour of Eye."

This "house that Jack built" sort of record does not afford much assistance in arriving at the mutual relationship of Henry, John, and Edmund Maunsell; but the last named is almost certainly identical with Edmund, son of Richard, who held lands in Naburn, the tenure being on precisely similar terms.

There is an earlier record, of the year 1253: "Grant to Thomas Maunsell and Richard Maunsell, and their heirs, of free warren in their demesne lands in Brudeford, provided that they are not within the King's forest; grant also of a weekly market there on Thursday, and of a yearly fair on the vigil, the feast, and the morrow of the nativity of St. Mary" (September 8).³

This Thomas and Richard are placed by Mr. R. G. Maunsell (p. 15) as the sons of John Maunsell, Provost of Beverley; and Thomas has, in fact, been tentatively accepted in the first volume of this work as the eldest son of the said John.⁴

¹ "Carucate"—as much as a team of eight oxen could plough in one year. The extent of the carucate varied, however, according to the nature of the land and other conditions. In old documents of this type it usually means one hundred and twenty acres. A "hide" of land was the same as a carucate; a "bovat" was one-eighth of a carucate, or as much as one ox could plough in one year. A "tith" signifies a homestead with its immediate surroundings, outbuildings, etc.

² Edmund, Earl of Cornwall, son of Richard Plantagenet, and nephew of King Henry III.

³ Cal. Charter Rolls, 1226-1257; p. 434.

⁴ See vol. II, p. 76.

It is by no means certain, however, that this Thomas of Brudeford is identical with Thomas above mentioned; nor is there any evidence that Richard was brother to Thomas, the alleged son of the Provost of Beverley. That the Thomas and Richard named in the Charter Roll were brothers seems probable.¹

There is evidence of the existence of one Thomas Maunsell of Birdforth at a later date, who had no sons, and more than one daughter; one of these, named Anne, married, early in the sixteenth century, Christopher Tomlinson (or Thomlynson) of Birdforth; she is styled "daughter and co-heir of Thomas Maunsell of Birdforth."²

It appears doubtful whether this Thomas can be identical with Thomas of Burford, or Brudeford, who has been dealt with in a former chapter, and who, it will be recollected, was held to be possibly the same man who was entrusted by Henry VI. with the responsibility of receiving the money, jewels, etc., subscribed for the cost of the expedition against France.³ He married in Kent, was escheator of Somerset in 1464 and 1469, and died between the latter year and 1473; but he may, notwithstanding, have been originally of Yorkshire.

In the Visitation of Yorkshire there is a pedigree of Manby, of Elsam (or Elsham), Lincolnshire, and Middleton, Yorkshire, from which it appears that Robert de Arkbow—possibly identical with de Arches, or Arcubus, before mentioned—married Sybil, daughter and heir of Ingram Mansell; their daughter, Hawisia, married Alan Malkake, Lord of Elsham.⁴

¹ It will be noticed that, in the charter, the lands held in Brudeford by Thomas and Richard are alluded to as "their demesne lands." There is more than one meaning attached to the word "demesne": it signifies, primarily, possession, but this is modified, according to Murray's Dictionary, as follows: "Applied either to the absolute ownership of the king or to the tenure of the person who held land for his own use, mediately or immediately from the king. Opposed to 'to hold in service'; for A held lands, immediately or mediately of the king, part of which he retained in his own hands, and part of which were in turn held of him, by B, he was said to hold the former 'in demesne,' and the latter 'in service.' B, in his turn, might hold his portion wholly 'in demesne,' or partly also 'in service,' by admitting a tenant under him."

² Visitation of Yorkshire: Robert Glover, p. 217.

³ See vol. II, pp. 253 and 30.

⁴ Visitation of Yorkshire, p. 624.

There are records of the tenure of lands in Middleton by Maunsells. In 1245 Alan de Kneton gave lands there to Henry Maunsell and his daughter Agnes; and in 1528 there is mention of Richard Maunsell of Middleton;¹ so possibly Ingram Mancell was of Middleton. Later, in 1645, Sir Thomas Danby, Francis Danby, and Stephen Maunsell were parties in some litigation in connection with the compounding commission. The lands in question were in South Cave and Driffield, both of which are at some considerable distance from Middleton; but it appears probable, from the Danbys being concerned in the matter, that Stephen came of the Middleton Maunsells.

These pedigrees are, as is usual in the case of visitations, almost entirely devoid of dates; Sybil Mancell may have been married about the year 1300, or somewhat earlier; Sir William Manby, who married her granddaughter, is labelled "*temp.* Edward III.," which is sufficiently vague, covering a period of fifty years.

Glover, in this pedigree, gives the arms of Mancell as follows: Sable, a chevron between three estoiles argent, a crescent in fess point for difference. This may be compared with the shield of the Dorset Mansells—sable, a chevron between three mullets argent. There is a certain affinity between the estoile, or star, and the mullet, or spur.

In the Yorkshire Star Chamber Proceedings there is a petition by Christopher Tomlinson, who married Anne, daughter and co-heir of Thomas Maunsell, from which it appears that his other daughter, Jane, was married to Matthew Metcalfe; also that the father of Thomas Maunsell was William of Birdforth. Tomlinson presents a long indictment against Matthew Metcalfe, his son John, and others for breaking and entering his house, etc.; the result of his petition does not appear. Christopher Tomlinson's will was proved March 28, 1553.²

Possibly Henry Maunsell of Birdforth, whose will was proved

¹ Yorks Arch. Soc. Record Series. Vol. xii. pp. 200, 201; vol. xxi., p. 216.

² *ibid.* Vol. xxi. p. 2.

December 9, 1184, was father of William above referred to, and grandfather of Thomas. He makes bequests to his son Thomas, his daughters Elizabeth and Alice; and to "William my son my best dish"—William being apparently the youngest, and perhaps under age when the will was made.¹

It appears reasonable to assume that Thomas and Richard Maunsell held their lands in Brudeford "mediately" of the king—*i.e.*, in the same manner as Henry, John, and Edmund subsequently held them in 1285, the year of Kirkby's Inquest; and the use of the word "demesne" in the charter would confine the privilege of free warren to that portion which they held and occupied themselves, excluding any part which might be let to a sub-tenant. The grant of a weekly market and an annual fair in Brudeford indicates that they were persons of importance in the locality.

Richard Maunsell was subsequently, in the year 1261, granted licence to hunt the hare, the fox, the badger, and the cat throughout the king's forests in the county of York;² but this cannot have been the father of Edmund, as the suit concerning the guardianship of the latter occurred in 1259, and it must be assumed that Richard was then dead.

The charter of 1253 was issued in favour of Thomas and Richard Maunsell, and their heirs; it is therefore reasonable to assume that Henry, John, and Edmund, mentioned in Kirkby's Inquest in 1285, were the heirs of Thomas and Richard; Edmund was son and heir of Richard, and the Richard who is named in the charter of 1261 was probably a younger son. Henry and John may have been sons of Thomas.

There is one John Maunsell of Brudeford, already alluded to in the first volume,³ who is placed by Mr. R. G. Maunsell as son of Richard; he may, however, have been the son of Thomas. He married Isabel, daughter and co-heir of Sir Richard de St. Dennis, lord of the manor of Hempsted in Norfolk; her sister, Joan, married Roger le Ken, and the lordship was divided between them. Roger

¹ "Testamenta Ebor." Vol. vi, p. 243.

² Cal. Patent Rolls, 1258-1260: p. 124.

³ See vol. i., p. 80.

and Joan sold their moiety to Alexander de Walcote, August 24, 1332.¹

The Yorkshire Maunsells thus became connected with the county of Norfolk about the beginning of the fourteenth century. The only earlier mention of the name in Norfolk occurs *temp.* Richard I. (1189-1199), when Stephen le Mansel was lord of the manor of South Hall, otherwise named Carleton Hall.² This Stephen is isolated, and his derivation cannot be traced.

Mr. R. C. Maunsell (p. 16) gives Richard Maunsell two other sons—Walter of Hoton, Cumberland, and Adam. Walter and his son Patrick are vouched for by official documents as of Hoton,³ and though there is no actual proof that they were respectively son and grandson of Richard of Brudeford, their tenure of land in Cumberland appears to warrant the assumption.

With Adam, however, the case is different. Mr. Maunsell states, correctly, that the king granted, in the year 1280, to Aunger de Chaucombe, "the office which Adam le Maunsell, of Horton, had in the priory of St. Swithin, Winchester, of the gift of Henry III., and which by the demise of the said Adam is in the king's gift by reason of the voidance of the bishopric of Winchester."⁴

The alleged association of this Adam Maunsell of Horton, in Yorkshire, with Winchester demands some scrutiny before it can be accepted, Hampshire being so very remote from Yorkshire. It does not appear what "office" Adam held in St. Swithun's Priory; but there are several villages or manors of Horton in England, and of these one is situated in Surrey and another in Hampshire. Mr. Maunsell has assumed that Adam belonged to Horton in Yorkshire, or, perhaps, to another of the same name in Cumberland; but it is much more probable that he was of the Surrey Maunsells, who were settled in that county considerably before the date of this charter, and one of whom was constable of Guildford Castle in the reign of Henry III.; or possibly he was of Horton in Hampshire.

¹ "History of Norfolk," by Blomefield. Vol. ix., p. 309.

² *Ibid.*, vol. ii., p. 405.

³ Cal. Inq. Post Mortem, Edward I.; vol. iii., p. 99. Cal. Fine Rolls; vol. i., p. 340.

⁴ Cal. Patent Rolls, 1272-1281; p. 370. The See of Winchester was vacant through the death of Nicholas, formerly Bishop of Ely, in the same year.

The point is not of great importance, however, as it neither furthers nor hinders the formation of any continuous pedigree of the Yorkshire Maunsells.

At p. 385 (*Nomina Villarum*, 1316) "John Mansel is answerable for one knight's fee in Tyverington" (*alias* Tirlington, or Tur Langton, in the parish of East Langton, Leicestershire). In a long footnote there is further reference to this John Maunsell, or Mansell, and others. In the year 1293 John Maunsell did homage to the Archbishop of York, "in aula de Toterbale," in the presence of Richard de Eyvesby and others. John Maunsell did homage for a tenement in Tirlington in 1303; Isabella, Lady of Tirlington, formerly wife of John Maunsell, did homage in 1308; and Elias de Renede, who married Isabella, relict of John Maunsell, did homage in 1311.

In February, 1308, Archbishop Greenfield granted to Isabella, "who was wife of John Maunsell of Tirlington, the marriage of John, son and heir of the said John Maunsell, which pertains to us by reason of the minority of the said John, son of John, because the said John, father of the said John, held the manor of Tirlington from us by military service; reserving to us the custody of all lands and tenements which the said John, father of the said John, held of us by the aforesaid service, together with the custody of one third part of the aforesaid manor of Tirlington, which Christiana, wife of Ranulph de Rye, holds as a marriage portion, when it takes place."

On May 5, 1310, the archbishop acknowledged the receipt of twenty marks "from the Lady Isabella, formerly widow of the lord¹ John Maunsell of Tirlington in the county of Leicester, in part payment of sixty marks in which the said Lady Isabella is indebted to us for the marriage of John Maunsell, her son."

Early in the fourteenth century there was one John Maunsell who was of Ossett; ² his name occurs many times in deeds, Court Rolls, etc.; indeed, he appears to have been frequently fined for

¹ *I.e.*, Lord of the Manor; the terms "dominus" and "domina" are frequently made use of in this sense, without implying the possession of any title of nobility.

² Ossett is near Wakefield, a considerable township, with about 14,000 inhabitants. In 1834 the population was over 4,000. (Allen's "History of Yorkshire"; vol. ii. p. 294.)

various petty delinquencies, and to have been of a quarrelsome disposition. In 1309 John's cattle got into the cornfield of Thomas le Pinder; Thomas was proceeding to impound the cattle, pending a plea of trespass, but John forcibly prevented him; whereupon they came to blows. Thomas, having presumably struck the first blow, was made to pay 4d. damages and 6d. fine; while John was also fined and had to pay damages for not fencing his cattle; so justice seems to have been impartially administered.

In September, 1314, there is record of an agreement between John Maunsell and Richard Snart; this arrangement, however, apparently led to some serious disagreement in the following year, for on October 18, 1315, an inquisition found that Richard, son of John de Ossett (possibly John Maunsell of Ossett) and others procured Reginald Snart to assault John Maunsell. Reginald may have been brother to Richard, or possibly identical with him; there was frequently great carelessness in the matter of Christian names. This is undoubtedly the same John who came to blows with Thomas le Pinder five or six years previously; on this occasion, however, the inquisition found in his favour, and Reginald in fear of punishment, wrote to John suggesting a compromise. John replied that, as the matter was before the court, no amercement—i.e., penalty or compensation—was possible. Reginald and the others went to prison. There is no indication of the derivation of this litigious John Maunsell; all that is certain about him is that he held some land or property in Ossett.

There is one Edmund Maunsell, whose name appears as witness to a great number of deeds, etc., from about 1280 to 1357; he is of Horton, and is probably the son of Richard and Alice, the bastard half-sister of Osbert de Arches; the later deeds, in 1353 and 1357, were probably witnessed by Edmund's son, of the same name.

There is no manner of certainty, however, about the mutual relationship of these various Maunsells. Harrison appears to have discovered a considerable amount of evidence concerning the several generations which are included in his pedigree; but it is probable that some of the steps in this are no more than assumptions.

There is some information concerning the issue of Henry

Maunsell of Wynton (Winton) in a reprint from the "Yorkshire Archaeological Journal."¹

From this it appears that, about the year 1268, John, son of Michael, and Joan his wife bound themselves to pay scutage² for their land in Foxton, in the parish of Sigston, to Philip de Colville. Among the witnesses was Sir Thomas Maunsell; possibly that same Sir Thomas, knight banneret, who was taken prisoner and wounded at the siege of Northampton, in 1264,³ and who is placed tentatively in the family, pedigree as the eldest son of John Maunsell, Provost of Beverley.

In the same year John, son of Michael, and Joan his wife figure in a plea concerning lands in Foxton. Michael's eldest son, Brian, who held land in Sigston, died without issue, and was succeeded in the tenure by his brother John, who then assumed the title of John of Sigston (sometimes spelled Sixton). In the year 1283 John, son of John, son of Michael de Sigston, and his wife Ilria, relict of Geoffrey de Manby, gave certain lands to the master and brethren of St. Leonard's Hospital, York.

In the year 1314 John, son of John, son of Michael de Sigston, and Joan his wife brought an action against John de la More and B—— his wife for a division of the estates in C—— of Henry Mancell (or Maunsell), father of Joan and B——, who died without male issue. Maunsell had granted the manor of Berreford⁴ in frank marriage⁵ with his daughter Joan.

In the year 1325 John de Wauxand (or Wassand) and Joan his wife granted to Sir John de Sigston, knight, certain lands in Winton, part of Joan's inheritance; from which it is evident that

¹ "Heraldic Glass from Ingby Arncliffe and Kibby Sigstone Churches," by William Brown, F.S.A.; kindly communicated, with notes and references, by the author.

² "Scutage"—a tax levied upon knights' fees.

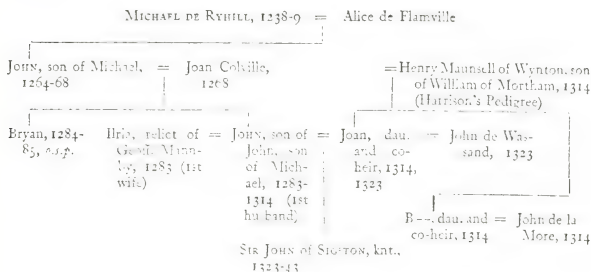
³ See vol. i., p. 13.

⁴ Berreford—not to be confounded with Bradeford—sometimes spelled Bardford, Berreford (originally Barfeld, viz., Barby Field, and later Berseud) was near Sigston Bridge, now known as Sigston Castle, though in the parish of Wintun.

⁵ "Frank marriage"—a tenure in which a man and his wife held lands granted to them by the father or other near relative of the wife, the estate being heritable to the fourth generation of heirs of the husband, and of the wife's blood in the male line.

Joan Maunsell, after the death of John of Sigston, married as her second husband John of Wassand.

The subjoined sketch pedigree shows the relationships more clearly.



Henry Maunsell held lands in Birdforth, Winton, and Hali-keld in 1284-5: John de Wassand and John de la More held lands in Brudeford in 1316.¹

In discussing the coats-of-arms displayed in the windows and elsewhere in Sigston church, the author of the article writes: "The attribution of the arms on the remaining shield is not free from doubt. The arms depicted are, argent, a cross sable with two crescents of the second in chief. The nearest approach to this is that of the family of Waxand, which derived its designation from a place now called Wassand, in the parish of Sigglesthorne, near Hornsea. Their arms were: argent, a fess gules and two crescents in chief of the second. Although these arms are also carved on a stone now lying on the sill below, it seems not unlikely that they are a variation of the Wassand bearings, especially as that family was connected with Sigston." In a footnote with reference to this paragraph is the following: "On the same block is carved a shield with a cross patonce. Papworth and Burke attribute, but without giving their authority, Sable, a cross sarcelly (cercelée), quarterly gold and silver,

¹ "Kirkby's Inquest," FF. 94, 103; *ibid.* ("Nomina Villarum"), p. 323.

to Mornsell. If this is a form of Maunsell, the association with Wassand is explained later on."

It is quite possible that Mornsell is a form of Maunsell; the fantastic variations in the spelling of the name have already been noticed. The relevancy of the allusion in the footnote is not, however, very apparent. A cross *patonce* is about as different from a cross *cercelée* as one cross can be from another; but perhaps the writer intends to suggest that the introduction of the cross sable in the Wassand coat-of-arms is due to the Maunsell marriage. As Joan and her sister were co-heirs of Henry Maunsell, this may quite possibly be the case.

This record supplements Harrison's pedigree in a minor point, showing that Henry Maunsell of Wynton had two daughters and no son, and connects one daughter with Sigston.

The Maunsells appear to have held lands in Ossett continuously, as there is a record of Alice, daughter of John Maunsell of Wakefield, in 1364, and of William in 1557 in this connection; but the intervening links are wanting.

The will of William Maunsell of Ossett, in the parish of Dewsbury, was proved on January 21, 1557. He desires to be buried in the parish church of Dewsbury; he gives "one-third of all my houses, lands and personal estate to Agnes my wife. To Thomas my son my head house that I dwell in, also my fields and lands at Ossett, and one acre at Horbury. To Roger my son two closes called Raven Roods, one cottage, etc. To Alys my daughter £20 in money and goods; to Anne my daughter the same; residue to Agnes my wife, Thomas and Roger my sons, whom I make executors."

Here are the sons Thomas and Roger to continue the connection with Ossett, but we hear no more about them. Horbury is about six miles north from Ossett.

In the year 1402 the following charter patent was issued:

"1 May, Westminster. License for the king's knight Hugh de Waterton, Robert de Waterton, John Nevylle of Shirwoode, Richard, vicar of the church of Darthyngton (Darrington), and Thomas Mountefort, chaplain, to found a chantry in honour of St.

Mary in the said church and to grant in mortmain¹ lands and rents to the value of 10 marks yearly to a chaplain to celebrate divine service in the church for the good estate of the King and his heirs and for his soul after death and the souls of his progenitors and of Thomas Maunsell and Agnes his wife and their ancestors, heirs and benefactors."²

Darrington is about two and a half miles south-east from Pontefract. That this chantry was duly founded and maintained there is evidence in the year 1546, when King Henry VIII. bethought him that he had been neglecting opportunities of further plunder in the matter of the numerous chantries, etc., scattered about the kingdom. Sir Rhys Mansel, it will be recollected, was one of the king's commissioners in Wales upon this business,³ viz., the visitation of the chantries and a report of their history, their respective founders, their endowments, and the value of plate and other articles contained in them.

The report of the commission is as follows: "Thomas Hawkesworth, priest, incumbent. The same is of the ordinance of Thomas Maunsell, whereof they show no writing. The said incumbent should pray for the soul of the founder and all Christian souls, by the report of the curate of the same church and other parishioners there. The same is within the said parish church, etc. Goods 7s. 6d. Plate nil."

Then follows an inventory of the various lands, with their values in rental, the total being £6 9s. 4d.; deductions for the yearly tenth payable to the king, and other sums to various persons, amount to £1 10s. 0d., leaving a balance of £4 19s. 4d.; not a very richly endowed chantry.⁴

The opening sentence of the commissioners' report appears to clash with the terms of the Patent above quoted, wherein it is

¹ "Mortmain"—the condition of lands or tenements held inalienably by an ecclesiastical or other corporation.

² Cal. Pat. Rolls, 1401-1405; p. 96.

³ See vol. i., p. 324.

⁴ "Certificates of the Commissioners appointed to Survey the Chantries, Guilds, Hospitals, etc., in the County of York." Vol. ii., pp. 334, 335. (Society's publications, vol. xvi.) The English is here modernised.

clearly set forth that Sir Hugh de Waterton, Robert de Waterton, and the others have licence to found a chantry in Darrington church for the soul of Thomas Maunsell and his wife Agnes ; prayers for the "good estate of the King," etc., form merely a customary preliminary. The chantry was founded by these several persons for the good of the souls of Thomas Maunsell and his wife ; there is nothing to show that Maunsell had anything to do with the foundation, and there is evidence that he was no longer living. The commissioners had no right to expect to find any "writing" by him ; probably both they and the incumbent were unaware of the terms of the original Patent, and loosely adopted the assumption that Maunsell was the founder, on the ground that the chantry was founded for his benefit.

There are some official records concerning this Thomas Maunsell which do not present him in a very favourable light.

On March 24, 1391, we find the following : " Pardon, out of regard for the day, Good Friday, and at the supplication of John Maxfield, to Thomas Maunsell for the death of John Musard, killed on 1 August, 1390."¹

On July 12, 1391, Thomas is again pardoned, " at the supplication of the king's cousin, the Earl of Derby,"² in respect of a formidable array of offences which, though not involving murder or manslaughter, constitute collectively a very odious and unsavoury catalogue of misdeeds, which may be summarised as follows : Harbouring murderers, and receiving lands, tenements, etc., for so doing ; assenting to a murder, and bribing the jury to acquit the prisoners, whom he afterwards held " at fee and livery for the cause aforesaid, and is a maintainer and supporter of them, and a common oppressor of the people and of the duke's (of Lancaster) tenants within the honour of Pontefract, to the duke's damage of £1,000 ; and further, for harbouring at Cridlyng (Cridling) Richard de Barton of Malton by Wath, and others, well knowing that on Monday after the octave of St. Martin in the same year at Kirksmethon they

¹ Cal. Pat. Rolls 1388-1392 : p. 301.

² Henry, Earl of Derby, son of John of Gaunt, afterward King Henry IV.

ravished Matilda, late the wife of Walter de Rosseby, and in doing so killed Richard de Scargill."¹

Truly, Thomas was in sore need of the king's pardon, and of prayers for his soul.

Among the wills in the York Registry occurs the name of Thomas Maunsell of Credilyng (Cridling, or Cridling Stubbs, a small township in the parishes of Womersley and Darrington, six miles east of Pontefract). His will is dated July 12, 1396, but it is not clear in what year it was proved. He desires to be buried "in the new chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary, within the church of all Saints, Darrington"; the residuary legatee and sole executrix is his wife Agnes.²

From this document it would appear that there existed in 1396 a new chapel to the Blessed Virgin in Darrington church, as distinct from the chantry afterwards founded there in 1402, which was also dedicated to St. Mary.

The Ven. Archdeacon H. Armstrong Hall, writing from Methley Rectory, Leeds, in reply to some enquiries concerning the chantry at Darrington, adds to his notes the following remark: "I don't know how I got it into my head that the Watertons and John Neville had knocked Thomas Maunsell on the head, and were compelled to found this chantry as an act of reparation."

The hypothesis is by no means wildly improbable; some explanation is needed to account for the erection of a chantry by these several persons for the benefit of a man to whom they were in no way related. The identity of Thomas Maunsell of Cridling with that very unscrupulous Thomas for whom the Earl of Derby interceded with the king is quite clear; and it must be reluctantly confessed that he was the sort of person who might very likely incur the wrath of decent men, even to the extent of the extreme measure of putting him to death. Life was held somewhat cheap in those days, and official records teem with instances of royal pardon for this offence.

¹ Cal. Pat. Rolls, 1388-1392: p. 463.

² Yorkshire Archaeological Society, Record Series, vol. vi., p. 113. York Register of Wills, fol. 1, vol. xcix.

The following entry in the Yorkshire Fines establishes approximately the year of Thomas Maunsell's death: "Henry, King &c. Whereas our father the King¹ lately granted to Agnes late wife of Thomas Maunsell the site of the Manor of Cridling for the term of her life; the King doth now confirm the said gift"² (1402).

From this it would appear that Thomas Maunsell died between July 12, 1396, the date of his will, and September 29, 1399, the date of King Richard's abdication, since the grant was made in the first instance by Richard, and its terms clearly involve the fact of Maunsell's death, the manor being granted to his widow.

The site of the chantry in question is undoubtedly on the north side of the church, at the east end; but the structure which here projects beyond the north aisle is now variously known as the Scargill Chapel, the Stapleton Chapel, and the Maunsell Chapel; and we have the evidence, already quoted, in Maunsell's will, that this was a new chapel in 1396, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin. Scargill and Stapleton were ancient Yorkshire families, and had intermarried in the thirteenth century.

It appears probable that the chantry founded by the Watertons and John Neville for the benefit of Thomas Maunsell and his wife consisted in the erection of a separate altar in this chapel, at which mass was to be said exclusively for the repose of their souls.

In connection with this chapel there is a fine stone rood-loft, in perfect condition, and still accessible by a spiral stone staircase, entered from the chapel, which has been recently converted into an organ chamber.

In the east wall of Darrington church there is a curious and perhaps unique crucifix, which was removed by the present vicar (1918) from the garden wall of an old farmhouse in Cridling Park, and thus placed for preservation. The peculiarity consists in the introduction of a second transverse beam, longer than the upper one.

¹ This is a curious mistake: Richard II. was not father to Henry IV.; his father was John of Gaunt. Possibly the charter originally contained, or was intended to contain, the words "King of Castile," a title which John of Gaunt held by his second marriage with Constance, eldest surviving daughter and heir of Pedro, King of Castile and Leon.

² *Journal of the Archaeological Society*, vol. x., p. 371.

about half-way down the upright shaft. The crucifix is stated upon good authority to date back to the end of the twelfth century.

There was one John Maunsell who, at the end of the thirteenth and beginning of the fourteenth century, held the office of verderer of the Forest of Galtres. There were several of these verderers; the duties of the office consisted in caring for the trees and undergrowth of the forest, and also in keeping the assizes, viewing, receiving, and enrolling attachments and presentments of all manner of trespass. The locality of the Forest of Galtres does not seem clear; but we find John Maunsell alluded to as verderer in 1295, 1296, and later in 1304 and 1306. He does not appear, however, to have taken his duties seriously; perhaps the emoluments of the office were not liberal enough to compensate for the trouble involved in punctilious performance of the various duties above enumerated. At any rate, John did not latterly give satisfaction, for in the year 1311 we find the following: "4 April. Order to the Sheriff of York to cause three verderers for the forest of Galtres to be elected in the places of Walter le Graunt, John Maunsell, and Robert de Shupton, whom the king has removed for insufficiency." ²

As in so many instances the relationship of this John Maunsell to others of the name is obscure; he may have been of Brudeford, or of Ossett. It is not possible to place him.

Another office which was held by one Henry Maunsell is that of Keeper of York Castle.

"8 Feb. 1400. Grant for life to the King's Esquire, Henry Maunsell, of the offices of gaoler, keeper, and porter of the castle of York, with the accustomed fees, wages, and other profits for the offices of gaoler and keeper, and 2d daily for the wages of porter at the hands of the Sheriff of York." ³

This same Henry, "King's Esquire," on February 24 in the

¹ "An Ancient Sculpture at Cridding Park" by Richard Holmes. "Yorkshire Archaeological Journal," vol. xi, pp. 18-22. This and other details concerning the chantry, etc., in Darrington church have been kindly communicated by the Rev. Canon H. S. Atkinson, the present vicar.

² Cal. Close Rolls, 1307-1313; p. 205.

³ *Ibid.*, 1399-1401; p. 192.

same year was granted for life £10 yearly from the custom and subsidy in the port of Kyngestone and Hull.¹

On September 6 following: "Two prisoners having escaped from the gaol of the castle of York out of the custody of Henry Maunsell, keeper of the gaol, the King pardons to the said Henry all that pertains to him in this."²

Apparently there were more escapes a few weeks later, or perhaps the Patent was repeated, as not infrequently occurs, without apparent reason; at any rate, on November 13 the pardon of Henry Maunsell under similar circumstances is recorded.³

Then perhaps it occurred to the keeper that these untoward incidents might not always be so leniently regarded, and that some explanation is due.

"17 Nov. Whereas the King's Esquire, Henry Maunsell, keeper of the King's gaol within the castle of York, has informed the King that the castle is ruinous and lacking in bonds of iron, so that felons and other evil doers often escape: the King has appointed the Sheriff of York to make good the defects."⁴

It is remarkable that similar dilapidations and defects were by no means uncommon in keeps and strongholds, etc., in these and earlier times. When John Maunsell, the chancellor and favourite of King Henry III. was appointed Constable of the Tower of London, he found it necessary to apply for funds to repair the building, which was, he reported, insecure against attack by the king's enemies. This was during the Barons' Wars,⁵ and there are other instances. The British *manana* is responsible for as many catastrophes, perhaps, as that of the Spaniard!

This Henry Maunsell was evidently in considerable favour with the king; the title of "king's esquire" indicates that he held

¹ Cal. Pat. Rolls, 1290-1401: p. 206. The official designation of Hull is "Kingston-upon-Hull"; but the prefix has long been dropped.

² *Ibid.*, p. 360.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 379.

⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. 377, 378. The date of this record precedes the previous one in the calendar, the respective dates are as above.

⁵ See vol. i, p. 177.

some office—probably a purely honorary post—in the king's household. On this same date we find the grant to him of February 24 repeated, "surrendered because invalid," and learn that he had meanwhile been granted the "office of parker of the park of Kilburn with wages of 1½d. daily and 30s. 4d. yearly for his life from the issues of the manor of Kilburn."¹

On the same date—November 17—Henry Maunsell's patent as keeper of York Castle is also repeated, "surrendered because invalid." There was apparently some irregularity with regard to the seal used for these documents. Henry is here alluded to as the "King's servant."

Maunsell did not, however, retain his post in York Castle for life, as provided for in the original patent, as the following demonstrates :

"12 May, 1402. Grant to William de Hoton of the offices of gaoler, keeper, and porter of the Castle of York, in lieu of a like grant to Henry Maunsell by letters patent surrendered."²

Why Henry Maunsell surrendered his patent, whether voluntarily or by compulsion, there does not appear to be any evidence. Perhaps it was just a royal caprice : such favours were held entirely at the will of the reigning monarch, and if King Henry desired to find a good post for William de Hoton the terms of the original patent would not be permitted to stand in the way. Henry Maunsell would probably be called upon to surrender it, and would have no option but to comply.

However, the grant to him of £10 yearly, on November 17, 1401, was confirmed on June 12, 1413, and July 8, 1423,³ by King Henry's two successors, on coming to the throne.

There is mention, in a letter from Robert Lyster to the Earl

¹ Cal. Pat. Rolls, 1401-1405 ; p. 15. The first patent was invalid "because grants from the subsidy were annulled in the last Parliament." The appointment as "parker" of Kilburn was issued, we are told, "under the seal used by the King when he was Earl of Derby" ; but it is not stated to be on that account invalid.

² *Ibid.*, p. 92.

³ *Ibid.*, 1413-1416 ; p. 40. 1422-1429 ; p. 136.

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of Shrewsbury, December 2, 1538, of one Maunsell, clerk of York Castle.¹

The author of a history of York Castle, in some introductory remarks, says: "For over eight hundred years the Castle of York has held a distinguished place in the annals of England. It has memories deeply associated with our national history and the struggle for civil and religious liberty. Here momentous Councils of War, the ancient Courts of Exchequer and of the King's Bench, have frequently been held. It was the King's storehouse and armoury for the North; and here sturdy craftsmen fabricated the long bow, the sword, and other weapons of war. . . . As the prison for the whole of Northumbria, not a few brave Englishmen have been led through its gates to an ignominious death. Martyrs for conscience' sake have died broken-hearted within its dark dungeons. . . . A Royal Mint was sometime established within its walls. . . . Many notable events are associated with the old fortress; and as the centre of authority in the North it has played many parts through successive ages and generations." ²

York Castle, as first erected by William the Conqueror, was constructed—like most of the first Norman strongholds, which had to be hurriedly built to meet the exigencies of the moment—of earth and timber. The first stone keep—otherwise known, for some reason, as Clifford's Tower—was built in the reign of Henry III. upon the original mound—or "motte"—which formerly held the wooden Norman keep. During the reigns of Edward I. and Edward II. the wooden stockades surrounding the keep were replaced by a stone wall, and sundry stone towers and other structures were added.

At the time when Henry Maunsell was keeper there was provision within the castle for the Courts of Exchequer and King's Bench, the Royal Mint, and lodgings for royal visitors, besides a gaol-house, which may have been of masonry, but which, as we have seen, was not altogether effectual as a place of detention. The other buildings were of timber and plaster.

¹ Letters and Papers of the Reign of Henry VIII. Vol. xiii. pt. ii, no. 974. His name also occurs in Yorkshire Star Chamber proceedings, in 1541.

² "The History of the Castle of York," by T. P. Cooper; pp. 1, 2.

A plan of the castle in 1910 shows that it contains the gaol—built on the radial plan—with the mound and the old keep beside it; a spacious yard, with the court-house on the south-west side, and the old gaol building near it, all enclosed within a high wall, the River Foss skirting the eastern boundary.¹

Among the Inquisitions Post Mortem, 7 Edward I. (1279), occurs that of Walter Giffard, Archbishop of York, which contains the following entry: "Burlay in the wapentake of Skireock. The manor, which he bought of Sir Ralph Maunsell, to be held by him and his heirs of the Archbishop of York for the time being, by service of half a knight's fee, and suit at the archbishop's court of Outelay."²

Burlay is Burley-in-Wharfedale; the Maunsells appear to have held land there continuously, for a grant of land there was made by Ralph, son of German Maunsell, in the year 1437;³ but the intermediate steps cannot be traced.

In the year 1260, at the York Assizes, the question was raised as to whether Peter de Manley unjustly obstructed a certain way in Lokington to the nuisance of the free tenement of John Maunsell, the reeve of Beverley.⁴

The word "reeve" has more than one signification; it may either mean the chief magistrate of a town, or a bailiff or agent. In this instance it probably bears the first interpretation; to speak of the agent of a town would be somewhat of an absurdity. It would appear improbable at first sight that this John Maunsell the reeve should be identical with the Provost of Beverley. There is evidence, however, that this was the case; he is alluded to in official records as "John Maunsell, treasurer of York and reeve of Beverley."⁵ That he could have had leisure to perform the duties of this office

¹ "The History of the Castle of York," by T. P. Cooper: pp. 87, 88, 247.

² Inq. Post Mortem, Edward I., vol. iii., no. 314. Walter Giffard was a man of great importance in his day. He was made chancellor in 1265, and was one of the arbitrators for framing the award of Kenilworth in the following year; on the death of Henry III., in 1272, he held the Great Seal, and was one of the deputies appointed to govern the kingdom until the return of Edward I. from France in 1274. It is curious that Giffard's name is omitted from the list of Archbishops of York in Dugdale's Monasticon (vol. vi., pt. iii., p. 1172).

³ Yorkshire Archaeological Society Record Series. Vol. xxxix., p. 42.

⁴ *Ibid.* vol. xlix., p. 112.

⁵ *Col. Charters York*, 1270-1271, p. 10.

it is not, in view of the minute record of his doings at this period, possible to believe; probably he employed a deputy, as in other instances.

In the year 1536 Robert Haldesworth, vicar of Halifax, presented a long petition to the king, which was referred to the Yorkshire Star Chamber.

In this petition the vicar represented that in March of that year he was "in God's peace and yours, sovereign Lord, at his said vicarage of Halifax, meaning nor intending any evil to any person, when one John Lacy, son-in-law to Sir Richard Tempest, being chief steward to your grace of the lordship of Wakefield [others also named] and one Richard Maunsell, of the city of York, servants and officers unto the said Sir Richard Tempest . . . came and repaired unto the said village of Halifax, then being riotously arrayed with swords, bucklers, daggers, staves, and other weapons invasive, riotously and forcibly brake and entered into the said vicarage, and then and there made assault upon your said orator, and put him in fear and jeopardy of his life, and violently took from him his purse then hanging at his girdle," etc.

The vicar has further complaints against these and other persons, and concludes with a very long list of articles forcibly appropriated by them, some of which were obviously of considerable value; and prays that these persons may be brought before the king's court at Westminster to answer for their misdeeds.¹

This is a serious indictment against Richard Maunsell and the others; but there is a considerable amount of evidence forthcoming to show that Robert Haldesworth was not such a peaceable and well-disposed individual as he would have us believe.

He was a man of substance, and in the previous year had rebuilt a portion of the vicarage, in process of which he found a sum of money amounting, according to his own account, to £300, but elsewhere stated to have been a much larger sum, concealed in an old wall. Haldesworth can scarcely be blamed if he considered that he had a right to the money, but others were of a different opinion. In a letter from Christopher Jenney to Thomas Cromwell, the writer

¹ Yorkshire Arch. Society Record Series, vol. xiv, p. 184 et seq.

remarks, *apropos* of this find: "You may do as you like here, for the King's general pardon does not pardon treasure trove."¹

This was certainly true enough of Henry VIII., who had no scruples about laying hands upon money, whether he was justly entitled to it or not: but he evidently had a truculent and rebellious subject in Robert Haldesworth.

On March 27, 1535, Jenney writes to Cromwell: "Dr. Haldesworth Vicar of Halifax, is accused of very shameful words, sounding to treason, for which, if true, he deserves imprisonment for life. Has bound him and his accuser to appear before your mastership and the Lord Chancellor next term. The Vicar is said to be a man of great substance, and to have deceived the King very much at the time of his valuation."²

On September 21 one William Bodinam, formerly servant with Haldesworth, lays information against him: "The vicar had said to him that he had lost upon mortuaries taken by the King from that one benefice 80 marks, and that if the King were to reign much longer he would take all from the church. He added also these words: 'a pou Herre all Yngland mey werre' (upon Henry all England may war?). Has not deposed to these words till he was advised to appear before his friend Sir Richard Tempest, Steward of Wakefield."³

A few days later, on September 28, Sir Richard Tempest, writing to Cromwell, says: "Since, by Cromwell's command, he showed Serjeant St. Johns where Dr. Haldesworth, Vicar of Halifax, was, the Vicar has delivered to him (Tempest) and his sons divers injunctions, under a penalty of 500 marks, to keep the peace against him and not burn his house. He is very cruel, and is maintained by Sir Henry Savell. He reports he shall have 1000 marks to put his neighbours and use to trouble. Since he departed from you he has been indicted for felony at York assizes. An information was given to the justices that he had found great sums of gold in an old wall of a house."

¹ Letters and Papers of the Reign of Henry VIII. Vol. ix., p. 10.

² *Ibid.*, vol. viii., p. 178.

³ *Ibid.*, vol. ix., p. 133.

Tempest encloses a petition from Haldesworth's parishioners, in which many serious cruelties and misdemeanours are laid against him, winding up with the assertion: "He does not scruple to forswear himself by his priesthood, by St. John Baptist, or by any book before him, if he can turn it to his profit, or to the hurt of his parishioners."¹

There is another side to this story, however; Sir Richard Tempest maintained a constant feud with his neighbour, Sir Henry Saville, who was a staunch ally of Haldesworth; and it may well be that all these charges were trumped up by Sir Richard, whose influence would probably be quite equal to obtaining signatures to the petition, and so forth. Haldesworth was summoned to London to answer the charges against him; he was, however, acquitted, or pardoned, and returned full of boasts as to what he would do to Tempest and others, saying that he had "cast such a flower into the queen's lap" that he would be heard as soon as Tempest.

In what sense Richard Maunsell of York was a "servant" of Sir Richard Tempest is not quite clear; it probably means that he, with the others, was urged and incited by Sir Richard to perpetrate the outrage at the vicarage, which cannot be defended from any point of view.

Robert Haldesworth (or Holdsworth) appears later in connection with what is termed "The Pilgrimage of Grace," concerning which there is a good deal to be said, seeing that more than one Maunsell took a prominent part in it.²

The causes which led up to the Northern Rebellion, or Pilgrimage of Grace, were no doubt in the first instance the king's cruel treatment of Katharine of Aragon, his marriage with Anne Boleyn, his assumption of ecclesiastical supremacy in his own realm, and the suppression of the smaller monastic houses which speedily ensued.

¹ Letters and Papers of the Reign of Henry VIII. Vol. ix., pp. 151, 152.

² The account here given of this great upheaval is in large measure taken from "The Pilgrimage of Grace and the Exeter Conspiracy," by Madgeleine Hope Dodds and Ruth Dodds (1915). These two ladies have written an admirable history of the whole affair, in the spirit of true historians, giving full authority and reasons for all their statements and deductions, without bias.

Queen Katharine was universally admired and beloved, while Anne Boleyn, partly on account of her usurpation of Katharine's position as the king's wife, and partly by reason of her discreditable philanderings, with the king and others, before her marriage, which gossip speedily communicated, with or without exaggeration, was held in contempt and hatred.

Then came the matter of the "New Learning" in religion; the declaration of the king as supreme head of the Church in England; the martyrdom of Sir Thomas More, Bishop Fisher, and others for no other cause than their maintenance of papal jurisdiction.

News travelled slowly in those days, and even when such startling and disturbing rumours as these first permeated country districts they were at the outset received with a certain amount of incredulity. Nor is this attitude in the least surprising; Henry had not up to that time revealed himself as the monster of cruelty which he eventually became, and these firstfruits of the new development of his character were indeed, at first sight, incredible.

Nevertheless, as time went on, and rumour crystallised into fact, there began to be much searching of hearts and shaking of heads among the people, simple and gentle, priest and layman.

Symptoms of unrest and rebellion were apparent in many quarters. Naturally the wave of antagonism spread from the home counties northward; and the expression, by word or act, of resentment was more speedily apparent in the Midlands than in the northern counties, not only on account of the greater distance of the latter from the capital, but also by reason of the northern temperament. The north-countryman is naturally reticent of speech, cautious of action; but he has to be reckoned with very seriously when once he makes up his mind.

The suppression of the monasteries, supervening upon these other disturbing events, kindled the smouldering fires to a blaze. Not that the king was without adherents and supporters; such he undoubtedly had, whether from self-interest or conviction; more probably the former in almost every instance, for it is difficult to believe that even the most ignorant could be sincerely persuaded of his good faith and probity in the matter of his marriage, and his

repudiation of papal jurisdiction, which were so obviously bound up together.

It may be that these amenities were not completely comprehended among the common people, though a general condition of unrest and resentment prevailed; but when they beheld the monks being turned out of their houses, their lands appropriated and sold to the highest bidder, or bestowed upon already wealthy men, the objects of the king's favour, their buildings dismantled and unroofed, reducing to a scene of desolation the well-kept enclosures and hospitable dwellings which they had been used for generations to regard, together with their inmates, with admiration and respect, they commenced to realise that they were in the hands of a cruel and relentless tyrant, who would stop at nothing to gain his ends.

Thomas Cromwell was, indeed, the first to suggest the appropriation of monastic lands to the king; and he was already hated by lords and gentlemen, priests and commoners—hated in the first instance by gentlemen, as an upstart of low origin who had risen to a post of high importance, and regarded also with suspicion and bitter hostility as a zealous supporter and exponent of the New Learning, which was almost universally held in detestation by a people naturally conservative in their instincts, and alive also to the nature of the king's motives, both in the matter of his repudiation of the pope and the suppression of the monasteries.

The religious houses were naturally centres of revolt against the new régime; the monks were always foremost in denouncing it in fiery discourses, which stirred up the people to fiercer resentment, until the dour and stubborn spirit of the northerners prompted the seeking of some means whereby their ancient faith might be retained among them.

Instances of defection were not, indeed, unknown among the religious; there is extant a letter from one Robert Ward, a friar, to Cromwell, wherein the writer describes certain stained glass windows

¹ Thomas Cromwell (created Baron Cromwell, July 9, 1536, and Earl of Essex, April 17, 1540), was the son of Walter Cromwell, *alias* Smyth, who combined the occupation of blacksmith with that of scholar, and father of John Cromwell, blacksmith and brewer at Putney. Thomas Cromwell was a friend of John Smyth in his youth.

in a church, depicting the life of St. Thomas of Canterbury—commonly known as Thomas à Beckett—to whom the church was dedicated. Similar representations were, of course, to be found in any church in the kingdom; but Ward disingenuously condemns them, alluding to one as “a superstitious and popish remembrance”; and he is careful to impart the impression that the friars went about among the “aged and simple,” inculcating what he was pleased to regard, in his ardour for the New Learning, as dangerous notions, which will “do much hurt.” And he concludes: “Also, for the quietness of my conscience to be at liberty to preach God’s Word, to which our statutes, local and ceremonial, are an impediment, I have obtained the good will of my master provincial to send for dispensation of my habit and obedience to the friars. And as you are general visitor I will do nothing without your advice; for if I could do more good in the habit and coat of a friar I would not change it.”¹

This effusion is here introduced as a specimen of the shallowness and futility of the professed motives of such persons as this renegade friar for throwing over the faith and the traditions in which they had been brought up. Here was a man who had from his childhood held the beliefs and doctrines of the Catholic Church without question, and who had adopted, as the most blessed part, in accordance with the traditions of the Church, based upon the words of its Divine Founder, the self-denying ordinances of the religious life. This he now declares himself ready to abandon at the bidding of a licentious tyrant and his cruel and unscrupulous minister. Is it possible to credit him with sincere conviction of the truth of the New Learning, and of its acceptability in the sight of God, whose Word he proclaimed himself so eager to preach? It is quite impossible; the motives of Robert Ward, and others of his stamp, who were ready to quit the shelter of their religious houses, and disseminate what they well knew to be false doctrine, can only be attributed to a newly developed aversion from the religious life—the lack of a “vocation”—and the hope of temporal gains. The Provincial of the order to which Ward belonged would be ready enough to assent

¹ Letters and Papers. Vol. viii., p. 236.

to his application for dispensation from his vows, after exhortation and remonstrance had failed to persuade him to remain faithful to them ; and let it be noted that he professed himself ready to go about his preaching of the New Learning in a friar's habit, if Thomas Cromwell so desired—to proclaim to the world, with callous effrontery, his deliberate breach of the most solemn vows to God.

Such persons and such doings as these do not convince hard-headed and practical folk such as the men of Yorkshire, Cumberland, and the other northern counties ; and it was not many months before their attachment to the old faith, their hot resentment against innovations, began to assume concrete form, to threaten open and organised insurrection.

There were, of course, risings in other counties, but we are dealing at the present chiefly with the county of York, and the Rebellion of the North, which was by far the most extensive and the most persistent.

There was at first some combination of effort inaugurated between Yorkshire and Lincolnshire ; but Lincoln led the way with an abortive and badly-organised insurrection, which fizzled out in something under three weeks.

The leader of the northern movement was Robert Aske, third son of Sir Robert Aske, of Aughton on the Derwent.

Robert Aske was born in 1501, and so was about five-and-thirty years of age when, in the year 1536, he came to the front in connection with the Pilgrimage of Grace. He was admitted to Gray's Inn in 1527, and was a practising barrister. Immediately after his admission to Gray's Inn he appears to have been in the employ of the Earl of Northumberland,¹ in a secretarial or some such capacity. He was unmarried, which was very unusual in a man of his age at that time. Possibly his celibate condition may have been in some measure attributable to his personal appearance, which is said to have been singularly unprepossessing ; he had only one eye, and Hall the Chronicler said of him that " there lived not a verier wretch as well in person as in conditions and deeds."²

¹ Henry Percy, sixth Earl (1502-1537) ; known as " the unthrift."

² Hall's Chronicle, p. 824.

Whatever may have been the case with regard to Aske's personal appearance, for which he was obviously not accountable, it is certainly not true that he was "a wretch in conditions (*i.e.*, in character) and deeds." The Chronicles of Edward Hall, while they are universally acknowledged to be of considerable value from an historical point of view, must be accepted with much caution where they deal with the characters or attributes of men and women. He had assumed the office of panegyrist of the Tudors, and anyone who was in opposition or rebellion against Henry VIII. was necessarily, in his eyes, a "wretch."

Aske was, on the contrary, a man of fine character, who felt bound, by his religious convictions and his innate sincerity and love of fair play, to protest strongly against the king's high-handed and, in his view and that of his co-religionists, absolutely unjustifiable proceedings; and when protest failed of effect, the appeal to force remained as the only means of obtaining redress.

Whether Aske and his followers were justified in their act of rebellion is a question upon which there may well be differences of opinion; the world's history teems with similar instances of armed resistance against oppression on the part of cruel and tyrannical monarchs and governors, which has been ultimately condoned and even approved by the verdict of later generations, more frequently, perhaps, where rebellion has been crowned with success; though the test of success or failure as to the morality of such action is obviously unfair. Aske's rebellion was ultimately unsuccessful, and disastrous to himself and many others; nevertheless, it was a gallant protest against undoubted and cruel wrongs, and it is impossible to withhold sympathy from him and his pilgrims in their desperate venture.

The story of the Pilgrimage of Grace is a long one, and cannot here be recounted in detail; nor is it, indeed, expedient that it should be.

The following summary affords a sufficient outline of the leading circumstances; the part played by Thomas Maunsell, Vicar of Brayton, and Mr. Richard Threlkeld, necessitate a more precise record.

While the king and Cromwell were congratulating themselves

upon the speedy submission of the Lincolnshire malcontents, the far more dangerous rising in the North was in process of organisation, and so swift was its development that, before the Lincolnshire insurgents had laid down their arms, the Commons of the East Riding had entered York, and the movement had assumed such formidable proportions that it appeared possible, and even probable, that Aske and his followers would shortly be in a position to dictate their own terms. The army of the Pilgrims was reckoned as numbering something like 40000 men—hard-bitten, fighting north-countrymen, who, once they laid hands to the sword, would not readily succumb even to a superior force: and the king had no force at his immediate disposal which was in the least degree adequate to deal with the matter.

Robert Aske issued, from Pontefract Castle, the following manifesto to the Catholics of the North, which was read at the market cross in every town from Trent to the Border, from east to west. The spelling has been here modernised, leaving the construction as in the original:

“Lords, Knights, Masters, Kinsmen, and Friends. We perceive that you be informed, that this assembly or pilgrimage, that we, by the favour of Almighty God, do intend to proceed in his cause; the King, our Sovereign Lord, hath had many impositions of us: we doubt not but ye do right well know that, to our power, we have been always ready in payments and services to His Highness, as any of his subjects; and therefore, to ascertain you of the cause of this our assembly and pilgrimage is this. Forasmuch that such simple and evil disposed persons, being of the King's Council, hath not only incensed His Grace with many and sundry new inventions, which be contrary to the faith of God, and honour to the King's Majesty, and the commonwealth of this realm, and thereby intendeth to destroy the Church of England, and the ministers of the same, as ye do well know, as well as we; but also the said Council hath spoiled and robbed, and further intending utterly to spoil and rob, the whole body of this realm; and that as well you, as us, if God, of His infinite mercy, had not caused such as hath taken, or hereafter shall take this pilgrimage upon them, to proceed in the same; and whether all this aforesaid be true or not, we put it to your consciences; and if you think it be true, and do fight against us, that intendeth the common wealth of this realm, and nothing else, we trust, by the grace of God, ye shall have small speed; for

this pilgrimage we have taken, it is for the preservation of Christ's Church of this realm of England, the King our Sovereign Lord, the Nobility and Commons of the same ; and to intent to make petition to the King's Highness for the reformation of that which is amiss within this his realm, and for the punishment of the heretics and subverters of the laws ; and we, neither for money, malice, displeasure to no persons, but such as be not worthy to remain nigh about the King our Sovereign Lord's person. And further you know, if you shall obtain, as we trust in God you shall not, ye put both us, and you, and your heirs and ours in bondage for ever ; and further, ye are sure of intention of Christ's curse, and we clear and out of the same. And if we overcome you, then you shall be in our wills. Wherefore, for a conclusion, if you will not come with us, for reformation of the premisses, we certify you, by this our writing, that we will fight and die against both you, and all those that shall be about towards to stop us in the said pilgrimage ; and God shall be judge, which shall leave His grace and mercy therein, and then you shall be judged hereafter to be the shedders of Christian blood, and destroyers of your own Christian. From Robert Aske, Chief Captain of the conventual assembly, or pilgrimage, for the same Barony, or commonalty of the same.

" Per me, Robertum Asken, in the name of all the Baronage and Commonalty of the same.

" THE ARTICLES.

- " First, for the suppression of Religious Houses.
- " The 2 for the Act of Uses.
- " The 3 for the First Fruits.
- " The 4 for the payment of money of the Temporality.
- " The 5 is for the base Council about the King.
- " The 6 is for the new Bishops." ¹

This proclamation met with ready response, the Northerners flocking from all sides to join the pilgrimage.

Meanwhile Aske, with some 20,000 men, was before the gates of York, demanding admission for himself and his host.

It would be imagined, and would be in accordance with the common practice of a crowd of insurgents, smarting under a sense of oppression, that these men, well knowing that the mayor and burgesses of York had not the means of effective resistance, would have rushed the gates and plundered the city ; but Aske had them

¹ State Papers, Henry VIII. ; vol. i., p. 466.

well in hand, and moreover the very terms of the oath they had taken, and the solemnity of their cause, tended to inculcate a sober demeanour, while preserving an unbroken front.

About five o'clock in the afternoon of October 16, Aske entered the city at the head of four or five thousand horsemen; he did not permit his footmen to join the procession, lest, being poorer men, they might yield to the temptation to plunder: the horsemen were mostly composed of gentlemen and their servants, well-to-do yeomen, etc.

Aske had previously sent to the Mayor and Aldermen a copy of the "Articles," and also probably of the proclamation transcribed above, demanding a free passage through the city "at their peril"; but was careful to add that the burgesses "should not find themselves grieved, but that they should truly be paid for all such things as they took there"; and on the previous night a proclamation had been issued to his followers to the same effect—that there should be no spoiling, and that meals, etc., should be paid for at a fixed rate.

And then was seen this remarkable spectacle of the long procession of armed rebel horsemen, organised in little more than a fortnight, entering as conquerors without bloodshed this ancient city and fortress. They rode straight for the Minster, whence, as they approached, a long procession came forth to meet them—to wit, all the ecclesiastics in full vestments, with the choristers and the whole cathedral staff. The Treasurer of York welcomed Aske and the faithful Commons who came to defend Christ's Holy Church, and solemnly led him up the aisle to the High Altar, where he made his obeisance.

Aske was not content with this demonstration; he immediately proceeded to utilise his victory in a practical manner.

On coming out of the minster he posted at the doors an order, already prepared, for the religious orders, which had been evicted from their houses, to re-enter them, "and there to do divine service as the King's bedemen to such times as our petition be granted"; making all arrangements for the supply of food, etc., from the surrounding farmers—"and we trust in God that we shall have the right intent of our prayer granted of our most dread sovereign lord,

plenteously and mercifully. And that no person nor persons do move no farmer nor alienate nor take away any manner of goods of the aforesaid houses, upon pain of death."

Among the most prominent names which appear in connection with the Pilgrimage of Grace is that of Thomas, Lord Darcy.¹ He had held sundry offices under Henry VII., and had been employed both by that king and Henry VIII. upon various missions. He favoured the king's cause in the matter of the divorce of Katharine of Aragon, volunteering evidence thereon; in the parliament of 1532, however, he expressed the view, in opposition to a speech by the Duke of Norfolk, that matrimonial causes belonged to spiritual and ecclesiastical jurisdiction; after which he received an intimation that his attendance at the January session in 1534 would be dispensed with.

Darcy, who was in charge of Pontefract Castle, was among the first to get wind of the serious nature of the Northern rising. On October 10 he warned the lord mayor of York that he must be prepared for an attack, but that he need have no fear of the rebels, as they had no artillery. At the same time he sent his son, Sir George Darcy, into Marshland—on the border of Lincolnshire—to waylay and capture Robert Aske, who, however, made good his escape.

While affecting to be on the king's side, Darcy was not a very staunch ally in that respect; he was in communication with many who secretly favoured the rebels, and acted as spies for him. He used the information thus obtained just as it suited him at the moment, sometimes sending it on to the king, and at others keeping it for private ends.

Among Darcy's informants was one Thomas Maunsell, Vicar of Brayton, a village some fifteen miles south of York.² His dealings

¹ Baron Darcy of Temple Hurst: this was a barony "by writ," i.e., by virtue of a summons to Parliament as a lord. The barony probably dated from 1304. Darcy was born about 1467; he was son and heir of Sir William Darcy. Having been attainted at the time of his execution, in 1537, the title became extinct, having been held only by him.

² Brayton is stated to have had two hundred and fifty inhabitants in the year 1831. The church is described as "a neat edifice, comprising a nave and aisles, a chancel, and a fine Norman tower, finished with a spire, at the west end." ("History of the County of York," by Thomas Allen; volume II, p. 308.) Rather an anachronism, this spire surmounting a Norman tower!

with Darcy and others give a strong impression that both he and Darcy were, as the phrase is, "sitting on the fence," watching the progress and vicissitudes of the rebel movement, prepared to jump down upon either side as prudence and self-interest might dictate. The sayings and doings of the Vicar of Brayton will be more fully dealt with later on.

William Maunsell, brother to Thomas, was Escheator of York, and a person of importance in the North. His name occurs repeatedly in official records, in correspondence with Cromwell and other state magnates.

On July 27, 1533, William Maunsell, writing to Cromwell concerning certain matters at York, urges Cromwell "to preserve the esteem he has already gained in these parts."¹ This is, of course, a proper and becoming attitude on the part of the escheator; but Cromwell was then and afterwards the object of hatred among Yorkshiremen, combined with a certain fear of offending him, by reason of his all-powerful position at court.

On November 17, 1536, William Maunsell writes to Sir Arthur Darcy: "The last insurrection did much come of the friars of St. Robert's (Knaresborough), who made bills and proclamations that the King should have 6s. 8d. of every plough, 6s. 8d. of every baptism, and 4d. of every beast. Now by their superiors other devices are made, wherein the people are determined against the King's council. There is spoiling of true men daily, and because the King's letters have not come, men trust (believe?) that those who never offended shall suffer like offenders. 'He is not in Yorkshire dare misname any of the Commons, calling them traitors,' for they say they will fight all the world with the King's person, and yet his laws are daily broken. . . . Commends Sir Arthur's loyalty and asserts his own. Could never get letters nor write until he had counselled with Sir Arthur's brother (Sir George), who sore repents that he went with 'them,' and the Commonalty do not trust him, for he has openly spoken that he will take the King's part. If they were sure the King would accept their service, many of high worship 'would sure me to

¹ Letters and Papers of the Reign of Henry VIII. Vol. VI., p. 389.

the King.' As touching the abbeyes, 'if every man be commanded to bring in the head governor of the house, I shall sure bring in my prioress, or else all my friends shall do worse.' . . . If the nobles and honest persons knew the falsehood of these feigned religious persons, other suits might the better take place. 'Sir, consider, seeing ye put me to the King, I will never dishonour you and shame myself for ever.'"¹

From this letter it appears that Sir George Darcy had not proved staunch to the king, and to his duty as sheriff—repenting of his disloyalty after the king's pardon had been proclaimed. He was afterwards in direct correspondence with the king and Cromwell concerning the custody of Pontefract Castle and other matters.

In a letter from Sir George to Cromwell, on January 26, 1537, the writer says: "My kinsman, William Maunsell, who should have accounted for me in the Exchequer this term, cannot come up yet," etc. In what manner or degree Sir George was akin to William Maunsell is not very clear; the term "kinsman" was frequently used in those days with very scanty justification. The Maunsells and Darcys were, it is true, connected by marriage with the Nevilles, Earls of Westmoreland, but the relationship is so remote that the term kinsman seems almost absurd. If Sir George Darcy claimed kinship on this ground, it would be through that Richard, already mentioned, who married Margaret, daughter of Sir Thomas Fairfax, and widow of William Sayre, in 1535.

There is an inscription in York Minster as follows: "Pray for the soul of Master William Maunsell, Esq., who died 6 Dec. 1541."²

It is probably not this William whose will is preserved at York; it is dated November 23, 1541, and was proved January 14, 1541-2. The testator mentions that he had been Clerk of York Castle—his appointment to the post is officially recorded, February 12, 1529³—and he is probably identical with the Maunsell (Christian name omitted) alluded to in a letter to the Earl of Shrewsbury in 1538.⁴

¹ Letters and Papers of the Reign of Henry VIII., vol. xi., pp. 421-422.

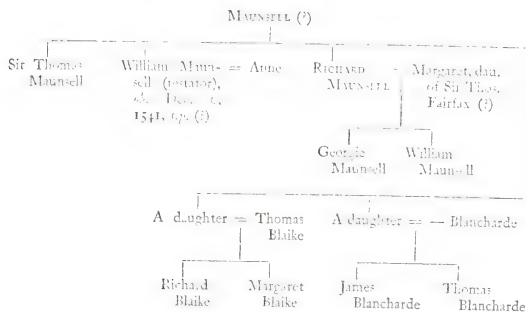
² Drake's "Eboracum," p. 502.

³ Letters and Papers of the Reign of Henry VIII. Vol. iv., pt. iii., p. 2349.

⁴ See *ante*, p. 354.

He alludes to his brothers, Sir Thomas and Richard Maunsell. We find the Vicar of Brayton frequently alluded to as "Sir Thomas"; if the Thomas in the will is intended for him, his brother William, who "smote at him" when he, Thomas, affected to be warning him of danger, would be identical with the testator, who was Clerk of York Castle. It appears very improbable, however, that the Escheator of York would also be clerk of the castle; and, in fact, there are various evidences which point to the existence of two William Maunsells at this time, who were both of York, and probably nearly related—perhaps first cousins. This Sir Thomas who is mentioned in the will must therefore be accounted as probably distinct from the Vicar of Brayton; but the point is not absolutely clear.

William Maunsell's will affords material for a sketch pedigree, as under, all those included therein being named in that document.



Arthur Maunsell and Custance (Constance ?) are also named in the will, but their connection is not apparent; Custance or Constance was to receive £6 13s. 4d. towards her marriage. The executors are Richard Maunsell, Anne, the testator's wife, Thomas Blaike, John Herbert, and John Shadloke; Sir Arthur Darcy, Sir Nicholas Fairfax, William Babthorpe, and Mr. Chaloner are named as supervisors. The final clause runs as follows: "Residue to

executors, and if my brother Richard vex my wife, I will he be no executor"—a somewhat delicate and difficult point for the other executors to settle: what legally constitutes "vexing"? Sir Nicholas Fairfax was son and heir to Sir Thomas Fairfax, which tends to confirm the hypothesis that it was this Richard who married Margaret Sayre, *née* Fairfax. Sir Nicholas would be brother-in-law to Richard Maunsell.

The reasonable assumption that this William the testator was not the escheator of York does not help in clearing up the question of Sir George Darcy's kinship with the Maunsells, as his allusion was undoubtedly to William the escheator; evidently a much more important person than the clerk of York Castle.

Of this William Maunsell we hear a good deal, both before and during the rebellion. He was zealously on the king's side during the whole business, and was repeatedly the bearer of letters, etc., between the Duke of Norfolk, Cromwell, and the king.

On October 6, 1537, he and Sir Arthur Darcy were appointed "stewards of Galtres Forest and of the lawn in the said forest; and masters of the hunt of deer there," etc.¹

To resume the story of the Pilgrimage of Grace.

So formidable was the array of Robert Aske and his host of enthusiasts, that the king, not having at hand the force to cope with it, and fearing a more general rising and a possible march on London, was ultimately compelled to adopt a conciliatory attitude.

A comparatively small and inefficient force was, indeed, despatched to deal with the matter, under the command of Thomas Howard, third Duke of Norfolk, who was well known and respected in the north, and was, moreover, a skilled general, who could be relied upon to make the most of a difficult military situation.

Norfolk, however, determined to try what policy could accomplish in lieu of battle, the issue of which would probably be disastrous to his small army; and on October 24 he despatched a herald with the proposal that "four of the discreetest men of the north parts" should meet him at Doncaster, hostages being duly given for their safety, and should state their grievances and the cause of their hostile array. The rebels, suspicious of the duke,

¹ Letters and Papers of the Reign of Henry VIII. Vol. xiii., p. 311, l. 22.

offered in reply to send four, six, eight, or twelve representatives to meet a like number "betwixt the hosts." The duke rejoined with a manifesto of some length, in which he reproached the rebels for "this most shameful rebellion against our most noble and righteous King and Sovereign; who is more worthy for his innumerable graces and noble virtues, and gentle conditions, to be king, master, and governor of all Christendom, than of so small a realm as England."

The northerners probably did not accept this fulsome courtier's portrait of King Henry; and Norfolk's final ultimatum, that they should either disperse and go home, when he would himself be a suitor to the king for their pardon, or stand the brunt of battle was more or less of the nature of what is commonly called "bluff."

The rebels did not receive this communication kindly, and were mostly for accepting the challenge; Aske, however, dissuaded them, pointing out that it was no dishonour, but a duty, to declare their grievances to their sovereign lord, when the opportunity was presented to them.

The upshot of this, and of a second conference at Doncaster, was that the Pilgrims agreed to disperse and go to their homes, on the promise of a free pardon from the king, and due consideration of their several grievances and demands.

Norfolk was to go to London and lay their case before the king, and the Pilgrim leaders undertook to keep the North quiet until his return. Such an undertaking redounds to the credit of Aske and his followers; but it also bears witness to their credulity, in accepting vague promises on behalf of King Henry, from the mouth of his subservient and unscrupulous lieutenant. Their one hope of success had lain in force of arms; but Aske, a sincere and high-minded man, shrank from the horrors of civil war, which would, indeed, have been signally disastrous at this time.

Having laid down their arms, they were beaten; Norfolk's return was long delayed, and Sir Francis Bigod¹ meanwhile inaugurated a second rising, which Aske and his lieutenants most loyally endeavoured to frustrate.

¹ Sir Francis Bigod (1502-1537) was descended from John, brother of Roger Bigod, fifth Earl of Norfolk.

And so they awaited the return of the Duke of Norfolk with substantial redress in his pocket, as they hoped ; but the duke had got his orders from the king, and was quietly enjoying himself at Kenninghall, his estate in Norfolk, until the beginning of February, 1537, when he was to go north with certain instructions.

Meanwhile the king, on December 15, had despatched a letter to Robert Aske, saying that as he had granted him a free pardon, he had conceived a great desire to speak with him, and thereby summoned him to London. A safe-conduct was enclosed, which held good until January 6 ; and Aske was instructed not to inform anyone of the summons. Aske, however, told Lord Darcy of it, and set out for London with six servants.

His reception at court was most flattering ; according to one account, the king threw his arms about him, saying, " Be ye welcome, my good Aske ; it is my wish that here, before my Council, you ask what you desire and I will grant it " ; that he promised to provide for the destitute priests for whom Aske pleaded, and gave him a great chain of gold and £1,000 ; and ordered that after the North was pacified and settled, Aske should come to court, and be made a member of the Council.

This is undoubtedly an exaggeration : but Aske himself alludes to " a jacket of crimson satin " which the king had given him, and it is certain that he was handsomely treated, and sent north with the conviction that the king was fully resolved to grant most, if not all, of the Pilgrims' requests. Furthermore, the king invited him to write out a full account of the part he had played in the Pilgrimage, which he did. It is an apparently ingenuous and truthful narrative,¹ written in good faith, and with the desire to place the facts frankly before the king, whose handsome reception of him had evidently produced a favourable impression.

Aske and his followers were, however, quite unfitted in temperament to cope with a cruel and unscrupulous tyrant such as Henry VIII. ; that he should, while conferring a free pardon, and promising consideration of their grievances, have been merely acting

¹ Aske's account is given in full in " The English Historical Review," vol. v., pp. 331 *et seq.*

a part in order to keep them quiet until his plans for their destruction had matured, was a contingency which never for a moment presented itself to their minds; nevertheless, this was precisely what Henry was doing.

Pending the arrival of the Duke of Norfolk, there was great unrest among the Northerners, independently of Bigod's rebellion; there were various rumours afloat—that the duke was not coming after all, that he was in disgrace with the king, and so forth; and when he did at length make his appearance, it was not in the character of an envoy from a beneficent prince, the bearer of favours and concessions to the people, but rather in that of an inquisitor invested with plenary powers, though this attitude was subtly veiled under various pretences.

The king's instructions to Norfolk are embodied in a lengthy document dated January 15, 1537. He was first to administer the oath, in a prescribed form, to everyone, commencing with the gentry and persons of rank and importance, enlarging upon the king's clemency and their offences. Faithful subjects who have been spoiled in the recent disturbance, and make application for restitution, are to be exhorted to keep quiet and wait patiently for the king's coming down: "Thus they shall neither despair of their suits nor be sure of restitution, which might cause the offenders, in despair, to attempt further inconvenience." Anyone who refuses the oath is to be treated as the "King's rebel"—*i.e.*, executed: "if this cannot be done without danger," Norfolk is to "pretend to make light of such a fool, and proceed to swearing the rest until a better opportunity." Likewise, those who have "committed spoils, robberies, or other enormities since the King's pardon," are to be executed, "if it may be done without danger, especially if they have been ringleaders or captains." And if this could not be done without danger, Norfolk was to "look through his fingers at their offences, and free them to continue till the King's Majesty's arrival in those parts."

Another clause runs as follows: "One of the grounds of the late rebellion was that certain lords and gentlemen have enclosed commons and taken intolerably excessive fines. The Duke is to receive complaints touching this, enquire who have been most

extreme, and moderate between them, so that gentlemen and yeomen 'may live together as they be joined in one body politic,' under the King."¹

The effect of this clause was, as no doubt the king intended, to set the gentry and Commons at loggerheads, and so weaken their position.

All this was, however, merely temporising; the free pardon, the effusive reception of Aske, the promise of concessions, of a parliament to be held at York, and of sundry beneficent results which were to attend the king's coming to the North, were just so many sops to keep the Northerners quiet, and prevent suspicion of the king's ultimate designs.

The *ruse* was eminently successful; on October 27 the king's "generous offer" of a free pardon and a parliament was read, first to Aske and the leaders of the Pilgrimage, and afterwards to the people in the market place at Pontefract, and was accepted in good faith; the Pilgrims, relying upon the royal promises, dispersed with thankful hearts, rejoicing that bloodshed had been avoided, and assisting at masses of thanksgiving in the churches on the road to their homes, there to await the coming of the Duke of Norfolk, which was, as we have seen, unexpectedly delayed until February.

When he arrived he did not long delay the tragic revelation of the king's real attitude and intentions.

Norfolk must have been in Henry's confidence with regard to these cruel and treacherous designs, and it appears almost incredible at first sight that he should have lent himself to such an outrage; but he was, before all else, a courtier and a seeker after royal favours, and whatever qualms of conscience he may at first have entertained in the matter were speedily stifled upon consideration of the alternative loss of the king's favour, and of probable disgrace and attainder—nay, possibly, of the loss of his head, for Henry had no scruple about murdering his quondam favourites if they displeased him, as Norfolk and his son, Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey, were subsequently to learn to their cost.

On February 19, 1537, Norfolk, in a letter to the Council, reveals his plan of operations. "Thanks for their last letter, with

¹ Letters and Papers of the Reign of Henry VIII. Vol. xiii, pt. 1, pp. 53 et seq.

the King's approval of his proceedings. Thinks, it sufered to follow his own mind for one month, he could give his Highness satisfaction. Has so many places to punish it will require some leisure, as he must be present at every punishment and proceed by martial law; for if he were to proceed by indictments many a great offender would be acquitted as having acted against his will. There is no lord or gentleman of these two shires but his servants and tenants have been at this new rebellion. 'And, good Mr. Comptroller, provide you of a new bailey at Embleton, for John Jackson your bailey will be hanged Thursday or Friday at the furthest, and I think some of your tenants will keep him company.'"¹

On February 22 the king writes to Norfolk: "We approve of your proceedings in the displaying of our banner, which being now spread, till it is closed again, the course of our laws must give place to martial law; and before you close it up again you must cause such dreadful execution upon a good number of the inhabitants, hanging them on trees, quartering them, and setting their heads and quarters in every town, as shall be a fearful warning, whereby shall ensue the preservation of a great multitude."²

To make an end of this sorry business, the king's orders were carried out to the letter, not only in the case of the more recent insurgents under Sir Francis Wood, but indiscriminately among the people of the northern counties, of whom thousands were murdered in this barbarous fashion; there was no trial, no opportunity of defence or exculpation.

Robert Aske was dragged in chains to London, and thence sent north again, to be hanged at York Castle; Sir Robert Constable³ was executed in the market place at Hull; Lord Darcy was beheaded

¹ Letters and Papers of the Reign of Henry VIII. Vol. xii., pt. i., p. 224.

² *Ibid.*, p. 226.

³ Sir Robert was eldest son of Sir Marmaduke Constable, who had fought beside the Duke of Norfolk—the Earl of Surrey—at Flodden Field. The families of Howard and Constable were, many years later, in 1604, connected, by the marriage of Gwendolen, elder daughter of Marmaduke, eleventh Lord Hereford, with Henry, fifteenth Duke of Norfolk. William Constable Maxwell, a direct descendant of Sir Robert Constable, was declared in 1858 to be Baron Herries. At the wedding of the Duke of Norfolk there was displayed the badge of the "Five Wounds," which was adopted by Alice's followers as their symbol, and which Sir Robert had worn when he murdered his tenants and friends to join the Pilgrimage.

on Tower Hill, while his sons were rewarded with lands and honours. Norfolk, writing to Cromwell on July 8, makes the somewhat callous remark—seeing that Sir Robert and his father had been his personal friends: “On Friday, being market day at Hull, Sir Robert Constable suffered, and doth hang above the highest gate of the town, so trimmed in chains, as this bearer can show you, that I think his bones will hang there this hundred year.”

With regard to the part which Thomas Maunsell, Vicar of Brayton, played in the Pilgrimage, there is a statement or confession by him, dated about December, 1536, which shall be transcribed in full.

It is headed: “Misdemeanours of Sir Thomas Maunsell, Vicar of Brayton, during the Commotion.”

“On Tuesday 10th October he went to Cotnes in Holdenshire (Howdenshire? i.e., the country about the town of Howden, just north of the River Ouse) to receive £9, and was taken at Holden (Howden?) by Thomas Darcy, one Concet, and Sir Richard Fisher, as a spy of the Sheriff,¹ and kept till Wednesday 11th October. Was then sworn to meet them at Skipwith Moor.² Went and showed this to Sir George Darcy, the sheriff, who sent him to Pontefract, to inform his father, Lord Darcy, who commanded him to keep his oath and bring him word on the morrow. Did so, and ran great danger from the mistrust of the Commons. Wrote that night to Leonard Beckwith and William Maunsell, his brother, to provide for their safety. Came then and showed Darcy at Pontefract how the Commons intended to come over the water to Darcy's home and the Bishop's. Darcy bade him go home, and if the Commons did press to come over the water, raise all the people in Darcy's room, so that the Commons, seeing them ready to go with them, should not come over. Darcy said he would thus do the King service. On Friday, 13th October, 21 of the Commons came over and raised the town, and he promised them he would raise all the towns in Darcy's room: which he did on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. On Sunday he had summons to meet Aske at York on Monday. Answered that he had not a sufficient company, and sent for counsel to Darcy, who

¹ Sir George Darcy was sheriff; probably Maunsell was suspected of being concerned in Sir George's attempt to capture Robert Aske, as related above.

² Robert Aske had issued a proclamation summoning the Pilgrims to a meeting on Skipwith Moor on October 11. Skipwith is about 12 miles south of York.

sent him word, by Strangwich, to go with his company and lie at Beilbrugh. Did so; but at 3 p.m., hearing that his brother was in danger at York for refusing the oath, he hastened thither, and obtained from Aske leave to swear his brother. Went to the house of his brother, who, on seeing him, smote at him and drove him from the house. Told Aske he had sworn his brother, and returned to Beilbrugh, where he met Strangwich, Darcy's steward, and Gilbert Scote, one of Darcy's gentlemen, in harness, going to Aske, who told him to retire towards Pontefract and raise Pontefract, Wakefield, and the towns towards Doncaster. Left his company and went that Monday night to Ferybridges, and on Tuesday morning to Pontefract Abbey, where he warned the mayor to raise the town, and had a letter from Lord Darcy to raise Wakefield, and the towns towards Doncaster. That day the Earl of Northumberland sent asking him to come himself to take him, the Earl, 'because he would be taken with no villains.' Went on the morrow to St. Oswald's and Wakefield and towards Doncaster, six men of which came out to him a mile from the town and were sworn. Then came one Dale and asked that the Earl of Northumberland, as 'craysede' (crazied?) might pass through the Commons towards Topeliff; and Maunsell gave leave. Came from Doncaster to Ferybridges on Wednesday night, and tarried there and at Pontefract till the castle was given up. Strangwich came and showed him how to assault the castle if it were not given up. The same night Aske came to Pontefract, and the castle was given up.

"Never spoiled anyone till the castle was given up. Was afterwards compelled to spoil Sir Brian Hastings and the Dean of Darrington, which was done by unthrifty persons to the amount of £77, whereof he Maunsell never had one pennyworth saving 15 head of cattle and other goods extending to the value of £3.' Yet as he was 'named to be their unthrifty governor,' he was imprisoned and compelled to make assurance to Hastings and the Dean of restitution according to the pardon. Never stopped any of the King's letters or wrote against the King. Never, after the giving up of the castle, meddled with Darcy or the captains, but repented his misdemeanours. Has never, since the proclamation at Pontefract, offended the King's laws. For a week before he advised all men to receive the pardon, and he and his brother came to the field on the day of the proclamation in harness to withstand all that would refuse it.

"If any of the premisses can be before 'your lordship' disproved, he is ready to refuse the King's pardon. Begs leave, Signed, Thomas Maunsell." 1

¹ Letters and Papers of the Reign of Henry VIII. Vol. xii, pp. 554-556.

Maunsell's allusion to the King's pardon is explained by the proclamation which had been issued on November 2 preceding, in which a general pardon is granted "to the Commons dwelling north of Doncaster, who have lately committed open rebellion. . . . But as their offences proceeded from ignorance, his Highness has caused certain books to be sent to them, by which they may see and acknowledge their errors," etc. Certain persons were, however, excepted from the pardon, among whom Robert Aske naturally figures first, and "Maunsell Vicar of Brayton" is included.

This is scarcely surprising; but his statement, as above transcribed, is a curious medley of confession and self-vindication. Darcy tells him that by a certain proceeding he would "thus do the King service"; he does not appear to have demurred to this expression, yet he went about "raising" the neighbourhood, while Darcy, professing loyalty, affected to yield Pontefract Castle on compulsion only.

A little later, however, we hear of the Vicar of Brayton in a different light from that of a rebel.

Dorothy, wife of Sir George Darcy, writing to her husband on January 13, 1537, entreats him to return home, as she, her children, and her goods are in great danger, the whole country is "so fervently set of wilfulness." This was at the commencement of Sir Francis Bigod's rebellion, and Lady Darcy goes on to say that "these countries"—*i.e.*, about Pontefract—would also have risen, "but were stayed by the Vicar of Brayton and others of your friends and servants."¹

As a set-off against this, one William Talbot, in his evidence against Lord Darcy, says that "as far as he can judge the Vicar of Brayton was the most busy fellow that was amongst the Commons, and the greatest robber and paker." (?)²

Richard Coren (or Curwen), Archdeacon of Oxford, writing to Cromwell on July 20, 1537, says that the Vicar of Brayton had sent Aske ten sheep and thirty shillings, "but of whose goods he knows not."³

¹ Letters and Papers of the Reign of Henry VIII. Vol. xiii., pt. i., p. 44.

² *Ibid.*, pp. 385-386.

³ *Ibid.*, pt. ii., p. 121.

It is probable, however, that this gift was a portion of the "spoil" which the vicar owned in his confession that he had received of the "unthirty persons" who plundered Sir Brian Hastings and the Dean of Darrington.

The end of parson Thomas Maunsell is somewhat obscure; there is no actual record of his execution or imprisonment, but we hear something more about him in an official document in the year 1541, when his name appears in connection with a series of charges headed "Traitors in the North."

Here, among the expenses incurred by one John Skayff, messenger, is the following: "For 2 horses for Sir Thomas Maunsell and Sir John Dixon, priests, to Pontefract for 2 days, 16d."

And again: "Edmund Nevyll and 2 men with him, going to Pontefract with the 'condam' of Crokstone, Vicar Brayton, and John Dyeron (Dixon?)."¹

This list of various charges was compiled, or completed, in May, 1541, but the two entries above quoted do not bear any date, and possibly may be in their wrong precedence in this respect.

It is quite possible, moreover, that these expenses were incurred at a considerably earlier period; such payments were frequently very irregular and long postponed; these men may have had to wait for two or three years for their money. On the other hand, if the entries indicate the disbursement of these sums—of which there is quite a long list—in payment of expenses recently incurred, it would appear that the seeking out and punishing of participators in the rebellion was much more prolonged than might have been expected, after the drastic measures adopted by the king and the Duke of Norfolk in 1537.

There are some interesting deductions to be drawn from these two entries concerning the Vicar of Brayton.

It appears that he was, upon two separate occasions, conducted from his vicarage to Pontefract at the public cost; in view of his confession and arrest, it may safely be assumed that these visits were neither voluntarily undertaken, nor of a pleasant character for the

¹ Letters and Papers of the Reign of Henry VIII. Vol. xvi., pp. 414, 415.

vicar; he was obviously under the charge of the men respectively named in the two entries, and travelled with them *volens volens*.

One John Dixon (Dixson, Dyeson), also a priest, was his companion on each occasion, also making an involuntary journey; and on the second occasion there was a third prisoner—for so they must be regarded—alluded to as “‘Condam’ of Crokston.”

The editor of the “Letters and Papers” construes “condam” as “quondam”—quite justifiably—and identifies “Condam of Crokston” as the late Abbot of Croxton.

Croxton Abbey was in Leicestershire, and was surrendered to the king’s commissioners on September 8, 1538.¹

This “quondam of Croxton” referred to in the list of expenses was therefore Thomas Grene, or Green, the last abbot; and he appears to have migrated to Yorkshire, and to have foregathered with some of the “pilgrims,” who were still in a state of apprehensive but indignant unrest. Thomas would have displayed more worldly wisdom had he settled down quietly somewhere and enjoyed his pension, which was quite enough to live upon comfortably in those days; but he apparently elected to associate himself with the Vicar of Brayton and others, who were stirring up the still red-hot ashes of the rebellion—or were at any rate, under suspicion of doing so, which would amount to much the same thing in respect of the consequences—hence this compulsory journey to Pontefract, for inquisition and examination, no doubt.

There is some evidence extant which appears at first sight to concern the sequel of these journeys, and the fate of the three men named in the list of charges.

Chapuys, the ambassador and court gossip, writing to the Queen of Hungary on June 10, 1541, says: “The news is that on

¹ Croxton Abbey was founded soon after the Norman Conquest; the monks were of the order known as Premonstratensians, or White Canons. In the deed of surrender the abbot and monks declare that they gave up the abbey, etc., with full consent, and so forth, as was customary on these occasions; the abbot received the liberal pension of £80 for his obedience. The rich possessions of the abbey were granted in March, 1539, to Thomas, first Earl of Rutland (creation of 1525), under a yearly rental of £297 6s. 4d. (See “The History and Antiquities of the County of Leicester,” by John Nichols. Vols. i, pt. i, pp. 151-157.)

the 27th May three of the chief conspirators in the North— an abbot and two gentlemen—were hung and quartered.”¹

Marillac, the French ambassador, in a letter to Francis I., dated June 14, writes: “ Three of those of the North have since been publicly executed for the aforesaid conspiracy, two of whom were priests, and the other a gentleman of the short robe, who were drawn, hanged, and quartered in the accustomed manner.”²

These statements, coming so soon after the appropriation of money for the expenses of the journeys to Pontefract, would appear to warrant the conclusion that Thomas Maunsell and his companions in travel are the three here alluded to; though Marillac's phrase, “ a gentleman of the short robe,” is obscure; it was probably a colloquialism of the time, and might have meant an abbot.

There is, however, precise evidence that Thomas, Vicar of Brayton, was living some five years later; for on September 17, 1546, he was one of the witnesses to the will of John Fitzwilliam of Brayton, as was also his curate, William Thomson; they are styled “ Sir ” Thomas and “ Sir ” William in the will,³ and Thomas is described as Vicar of Braton.

There can be no doubt, therefore, that Thomas Maunsell survived the ordeal of May, 1541; perhaps, after all, he was only wanted as a witness at Pontefract.

No further mention of him is to be found in State Papers or correspondence. He appears, from his intimacy with Aske, Lord Darcy, and other prominent leaders, to have been regarded as a man to be reckoned with; his conduct and language alike indicate considerable force of character; but that he was in any degree an admirable person, or an ornament to his cloth, cannot perhaps be confidently maintained.

Of William Maunsell, the vicar's brother, there is a good deal to be found in state documents, and he is evidently regarded as a man of importance.

On October 26, 1536, one Anthony Brakynbery, writing to

¹ Letters and Papers of the Reign of Henry VIII. Vol. xvi., p. 436.

² *Ibid.*, p. 440.

³ “ Testamenta Eboracensia ” (Surtees Society); vol. vi., p. 241.

Cromwell, alludes to an apparent quibble whereby Anthony Heron, whom Brakynbery had been instrumental in getting apprehended for playing some part in the rebellion, seemed likely to get off scot-free, which, of course, would not be agreeable to Brakynbery, who says: "The matter has been stayed to this day by favour, and they have put me clear from it, saying my servant made wrong information to your Lordship that he was attainted, and I had no right to enter. I beg your Lordship's help, for he has friends, such as Maunsell of York, who have been at London at this time, for what intent I know not."¹

This allusion is almost certainly to William Maunsell, Escheator of York; there is no other Maunsell to the fore at the moment who would be at all likely to be alluded to as "Maunsell of York"; and it is somewhat remarkable that he should apparently be regarded by Brakynbery as a person who was disposed to befriend Heron the traitor, seeing how zealous he was upon the king's side. Possibly Maunsell was aware that Heron was being treated with some injustice, and was prepared, to a certain extent, to influence Cromwell in his favour; but there was such wholesale injustice and cruelty afoot that if William were going to make any attempt at neutralising it he would certainly have his hands full. The most probable explanation is that Brakynbery knew Heron to be a personal friend of Maunsell, and was afraid that the latter might frustrate his own designs against Heron.

On January 20, 1537, William Maunsell writes to Mr. Bekewith (or Beckwith, whom he addresses as "Cousin Bekewith," but the relationship is not clear), about Sir Francis Bigod's insurrection; he asks Bekewith, who was apparently in London, to explain to the lord chief baron (of the Exchequer) that he cannot then come to London, as he is better employed upon the king's service in the North; and Sir Oswald Wyllestrop, writing to Cromwell on the same day, says: "Though William Maunsell has great charges in the Exchequer, has caused him to remain here to serve the King."²

¹ "Testamenta Eboracensia" (Surtees Society): vol. xii, p. 150.

² *Ibid.*, vol. vii, p. 1, pp. 76-77.

Sir George Darcy, writing six days later to Cromwell, also explains that his "kinsman," William Maunsell, cannot then come to London upon Exchequer business; Sir George was sheriff, and Maunsell was to have taken his accounts also to the chief baron of the Exchequer—but they were too busy in the North.

That Maunsell was very vigilant in and about York is shown by his arrest of a man named Shottilworth (Shuttleworth), a servant of the Abbot of Sawley, who was the bearer of a letter from the abbot and monks to Sir Thomas Percy. This appears to have been in itself a very harmless document; the monks, driven out by the king's commissioners, and reinstated by Robert Aske, implored Sir Thomas Percy's advice and assistance in the situation created by Sir Francis Bigod's rising.¹ Shuttleworth, however, was found in the company of one Leach, who had joined him on his travels, and as Leach was known as a rebel, Maunsell had Shuttleworth seized for associating with him.²

Later on, Maunsell appears as an envoy from the Duke of Norfolk to the jury who were on the trial of one Levenyng, a gentleman. Thomas Delaryver, one of the jury, made a confession of the circumstances attending their deliberations. From this it appears that they differed materially in their views, and sat from 9 a.m. on Friday until Saturday night. The duke sent his gentleman usher to them at noon on Saturday, to know whether they were agreed; subsequently he appeared in person and called the jury before him. On his departure he left his men Scallit and Brigham to keep the jury more straitly; who took away from them all that might keep

¹ Sawley (or Sallay) Abbey was founded by William de Percy in 1146, so the abbot would naturally seek counsel of the founder's family. John Stevens, in his "additions" to Dugdale's *Monasticon*, alluding to Sawley Abbey, says: "The names of the abbots of this monastery I have not anywhere met with except only the last of them, William Trailford, who alone may stand for many, being one of that small number who in those days had the courage to give up his life a sacrifice to his conscience, for he was hanged at Lancaster, in the year 1538, for opposing the sacrilegious havoc of churches and monasteries, and standing up for his own. On which account his name will for ever remain honourable to posterity." There are two Sawleys in Yorkshire, one near to Ripon, the other, the site of Sawley Abbey, about four miles from Clitheroe, close to the Lancashire border. The lands of Sawley Abbey were granted by Henry VIII. to Sir Arthur Darcy; its yearly value is estimated in "*Valor Ecclesiasticus*" at £147 3s. 10d.

² Letters and Papers of the Reign of Henry VIII. Vol. xii., pt. i., p. 230.

them warm." Finally, at night, the duke sent Leonard Beckwith and Maunsell (here spelled *Mansfeld*) to them, with the object, no doubt, of inducing them to come to a decision. Levenyng was accused of joining in Sir Francis Bigod's rebellion, and the Duke no doubt desired a verdict against him. What Beckwith and Maunsell said to the jury does not appear, but the result was that "they fell all to prayer, and rose up and agreed to acquit Levenyng."¹

Maunsell's name also constantly appears as the bearer of letters between Norfolk and Cromwell: indeed, he must have spent a good deal of his time journeying between London and York. In 1538 he was appointed a justice of the peace.

On September 1, 1539, Maunsell was one of the commissioners appointed to survey all the king's forests north of Trent;² and on December 11 in the same year he writes to Cromwell concerning the award to him of the receivership of St. Mary's abbey—it is not precisely stated where the abbey is situated: "Has delivered Cromwell's letters and one from the Chancellor of the Augmentations to the King's commissioners in his favour for the receivership of St. Mary's Abbey, and has found sureties. Is put in possession, but Master Bekewith declares he intends to labour to stop his proceedings. As his officer in these parts, asks Cromwell to help that his bill may be preferred to the King and signed. Has written to Mr. Popley and sent him ~~for~~ for Cromwell according to his promise. As a reason for the King's favouring him, reminds Cromwell how he rode several times from London to give evidence for the King concerning the indictments of the attainted persons in Yorkshire, and found offices of all their lands in all the shires of England, 'affore the excheatoury,' for which the King promised to see him recompensed, as he trusts Master Wreesley can declare."³

The office of "receiver" of abbey lands under the king's commissioners no doubt carried substantial "pickings," and Maunsell

¹ Letters and Papers of the Reign of Henry VIII. Vol. xii., pt. i., p. 322.

² *Ibid.*, vol. xiv., pt. ii., p. 35.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 244. The Court of Augmentations was so styled because it had to do with the lands of the monasteries, etc., the suppression of which so largely augmented the king's revenues.

apparently found it worth while to propitiate Cromwell by means of what is vulgarly termed "palm oil." Probably Cromwell made a very handsome profit from similar offerings;¹ the practice was frankly recognised in those days, and no one considered himself above it; but perhaps we need not go so far back as Tudor times to find examples of it—only we are more discreet nowadays. Maunsell's cousin Beckwith appears on this occasion to have endeavoured to frustrate his designs.

On July 13, 1537, the Court of Augmentations granted to William Maunsell, gentleman, the tenure of the lands attached to Clementhorpe (St. Clement's) Priory, York; the grant was to him and his heirs for the term of twenty-one years, dating from March 25 in the previous year (1536); the priory and lands were granted in fee simple to Edward Skipwith, to whom Maunsell paid £8 15s. *od.* annually.²

William Maunsell dates some of his letters from Clementhorpe; he is also named as of Huntington, which is some five miles north of York.

Among the grants in May, 1542, occurs the following: "Edward Skipwith and Margaret his wife. License to alienate the late priory of Clementhorpe, with appurtenances . . . late in tenure of William Maunsell deceased," etc.³

This appears to raise once more the question of the identity of William the escheator, a gentleman usher of the king's chamber, and a member of the Council of the North, with that William whose will has been noticed on a previous page. The grant to Edward Skipwith is dated some six months after the death of this William as recorded in the inscription in York Minster; just about the

¹ In Cromwell's Accounts, among the receipts for December, 1539, appears: "16*l.* Maunsell, of the North, by Pepley, £40."

² *Monasticon Anglicanum* (second edition). Vol. iv., p. 327. St. Clement's Priory was founded by Archbishop Thurstan, about the year 1130, or possibly later; it was a community of Benedictine nuns. The last prioress was Isabella Warde, who received a pension of £6 13*s.* 4*d.* on surrendering the priory to the king's commissioners; in sharp contrast with that awarded to Thomas Green, Abbot of Croxton, who, as we have seen, received £100 *annum*.

³ *Letters and Papers of the Reign of Henry VIII.* Vol. xvii., p. 211.

period which usually elapses before action is taken upon the decease of a tenant.

In a book of orders taken by the Council with the king's debtors, in 1546, the following entry appears, under date July 15 : "Executors of Wm. Maunsell (Richard Maunsell, who alleges that his brother William died about Michaelmas anno 33)" (*i.e.*, 1541).¹ The date on the tablet in York Minster is December 6 ; and although nearly three years had elapsed, it appears strange that Richard should not recollect more precisely the date of his brother's death.

It does not seem to be possible to clear up the question as to the identity or otherwise of these two Williams ; we hear no more, officially, of William of the North after 1541, so it is most probable that he died in that year.

In a volume of English Miscellanies, published by the Surtees Society, there are transcribed from the York City Records "Certificates of the English parentage and birth of certain persons who have been charged with being Scots." Among these occurs the plaint of one John Malson, of York, that "evil disposed people and children of wickedness, through malice and envy, by the temptation of an evil spirit, falsely and untruly hath 'noy-ed' (annoyed?) and slandered" him, a true Englishman.² His English parentage is vouched for by a large number of persons, among whom are John Maunchell and Robert Maunchell, Esquires ; these are, of course, Maunsells. The year given is 1482, but, as in other instances, it must be admitted that the relationship of John and Robert, mutual or otherwise, cannot be determined ; they may have been of York, or perhaps of Brudeford.

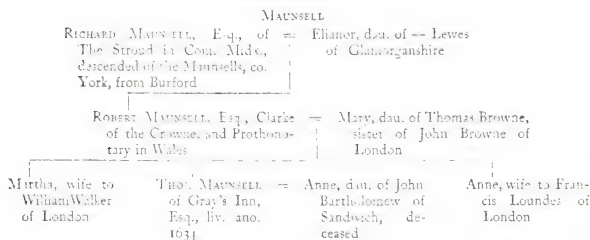
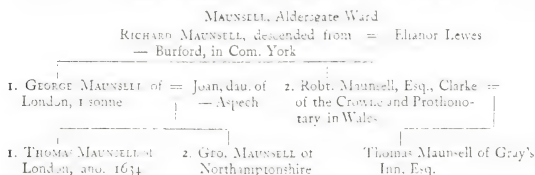
From the Visitation of London in 1634 we learn that certain Maunsells then resident in London, or at least in Middlesex, claim descent from those of Brudeford (Burford, Birdforth).

The pedigrees appear to have been declared by Thomas Maunsell, Esq., of Gray's Inn, and another Thomas Maunsell, his first cousin, described as of London.

¹ Letters and Papers of the Reign of Henry VIII. Vol. xxi., pt. i., p. 632.

² "A Volume of English Miscellanies, illustrating the History and Language of the Northern Counties of England." Surtees Society, 1830 : pp. 40, 41.

388 THE MAUNSELL (MANSEL) FAMILY



Thomas Maunsell (spelled *Mansell* in the register) was admitted to Gray's Inn, June 2, 1619; he is described as son and heir of Robert Mansell of London, gent.

A coat-of-arms is presented with each pedigree, *viz.*, First and fourth quarters, or, on a fesse dancettée gules, three lions rampant of the field; second and third quarters, argent, on a chevron sable, between three falcons, gules, three stags' heads, cabossed, of the field.

The second shield is similar, with a crescent for difference, which is in accordance with the position of Robert as second son; the crest in each instance is a falcon proper, billed and belled or, with a crescent for difference in the second.¹

The arms in the first and fourth quarters are those of Maunsell; ² in the second and third quarters they are probably those of Lewes (or Lewis), of Wales.

It would be interesting to know when these Maunsells of

¹ Visitations of London. Har. Soc., vol. xviii., p. 60.

² Burke's "General Armory."

Yorkshire came to London, it is quite possible, even probable, that Richard was the first. In declaring the pedigree, on the occasion of the visitation of London, Thomas Maunsell would very naturally start from the period of the first connection of his family with the metropolis. There is a considerable gap between the latest mention of the Maunsells of Brudetord in old records and the date of this visitation, so that it is not possible to trace the descent of Richard from any one of them.

It is of some interest that these pedigrees indicate a connection with Wales and also with Northamptonshire. Robert Maunsell was, about the end of the sixteenth century, or later, prothonotary—*i.e.*, chief clerk or registrar of the courts—in Wales, and his mother was a Welsh lady from Glamorganshire; from which it may reasonably be argued that Richard Maunsell, either before or after his migration from Yorkshire to London, had been in Wales, possibly upon legal business, which would pave the way for his son to obtain an official post there. But conjecture will carry us no further.

George of Northamptonshire is too vague to build upon; it is to be presumed that he acquired an estate in that county. It is worthy of note that this George Maunsell's connection with Northamptonshire dates, in all probability, from about the same period as that of John Maunsell of Chicheley, who bought the Thorpe Malsor estate in 1622. George would, from the pedigree, be his contemporary, though younger. There is no evidence as to the connection, remote or otherwise, between the Yorkshire Maunsells and those of Chicheley; and so George Maunsell's advent into Northamptonshire can only be regarded as purely fortuitous.

In the Register of the Freemen of the City of York appear the names of several Maunsells,¹ to wit:

¹ Previous to the passing of the Municipal Corporations Act, in 1835, each borough admitted freemen according to its own ancient customs and bye-laws; the privilege usually included the right to vote at a parliamentary election, the right of the borough, and exemption from all tolls and dues. Freedom was obtained, *i.e.*, by apprenticeship, *i.e.*, having served full time as an apprentice; by patrimony, *i.e.*, being the child of a freeman; or by redemption, that is, by order of the Mayor and Court of Aldermen, either upon payment of money, or as a reward for services rendered to the city. In the city of York only freemen were allowed to carry on any trade; hence many purchasers of the privilege, including some women. The wife of a freeman was not allowed to trade independently. Freedom was also obtained by purchase.

Henricus Maunsall—1285.

Matilda Maunsall—1310.

Johannes Maunsall—1359.

Willelmus Maunsall—1477.

Johannes Maunsell—1505.

Willelmus Mawnesell—1525.

Johannes Manssell—1585.

John Maunsell (1359) is described as "coocus," *i.e.*, cook; William (1477) as "yoman"; John (1505) as "shereman" (that is, one who pursued the trade of shearing woollen cloths); William (1525) as "gentyلمان"; and John (1585) as "surigion." The capricious spelling of the name is, of course, characteristic of the times.

William Maunsell, gentleman, who became a freeman in 1525, was very probably identical with William of the North, escheator of York, etc., of whom we have been hearing a good deal.

John Manssell, the surgeon, was evidently a man of some local importance, as he was one of the four city chamberlains elected in that year,¹ and he was also apparently the last Maunsell who became a freeman of York. There is no further mention of them up to the year 1835.²

¹ It was the duty of the chamberlains to receive the fees of those who became freemen, to see that no person carried on his trade in the city without first obtaining the freedom, and to keep a list of all the freemen who were admitted during their year of office. See "Register of the Freeman of the City of York": Publications of the Surtees Society, vol. XLVI, 1882. This register extends from 1272 to 1750 inclusive; a later register, from 1760 to 1835, was published in the latter year by the corporation, but does not include any Maunsells.

² On August 20, 1557, the Duke of Norfolk wrote to Cromwell from Nottingham, Norfolk: "My very good lord, I desire you to write by this bearer to young Mawnsfeld, or any one that has the skill of old Mawnsfeld to put my son's arm in joint."

"Mawnsfeld" is very probably intended for Maunsell; it is perhaps possible that "young Mawnsfeld," evidently a surgeon, as was his father before him, may be identical with John Maunsel (or Maunsell), surgeon, who was a chamberlain of York; though the interval, to 1585, was a long one—some eight-and-forty years. Norfolk may have heard of John Mawnsfeld the elder when he was in the North, as a surgeon of local celebrity.

Norfolk's son, Henry Howard, Earl of Surrey, accompanied his father in 1537 when he went North; some weeks subsequently accused him of complicity with Ake and his fellows in the Pilgrimage of Grace. Surrey was at this time (August, 1537) in confinement at Windsor, by order of the Privy Council for having struck a courtier who repeated this rumour, in the park at Hampton Court; being taken the royal prisoner was always severely dealt with. Probably his arm was put out of joint in a personal encounter with this gossiping gentleman.

In the latter half of the thirteenth century some Maunsells were connected with Naburn, about four miles south of York. The deeds in which these Maunsells of Naburn are mentioned are, with one exception, undated, but the period of the others is pretty clearly indicated by inference.

In one deed Richard Pinchewar and Helewissa his wife quitclaim to Richard Maunsell "all right in the assarts,¹ made or to be made on account of two bovats of land which they held of him in the Vill of Naburn," in return for certain other lands.

Later (apparently) there is a grant by Richard le Maunsell of Naburn of considerable lands, etc., to the canons of St. Andrew of York, in frankalmoign,² for the health of his soul.

About July 14, 1295, there is a grant by Edmund Maunsell to William Helewise of Naburn and Alice his wife of certain lands in Naburn.

By another deed, Martin de Nortfolck (Norfolk?) exchanges some lands with Richard Maunsell of Naburn, knight; so this deed is probably subsequent to the others in which he is not alluded to as a knight. There is reference in this deed to "Helewise, the said Richard's sister"; it appears probable that she was wife to Richard Pinchewar, named in the other deed: but it is curious that the surname of one of the parties to the deed of 1295 should be spelled precisely the same as the Christian name of Richard's sister. Was she possibly named after Helewise, or Helwiss, or his father?

We hear again of William Helewys and Alice his wife in the year 1300; on October 23 Edmund Maunsell granted them licence "to dig turfs in his moor of Fulmoss in Naburn," under certain prescribed conditions.³

The village of Naburn had a population, in 1831, of three hundred and sixty; it was then remarkable chiefly for a fine maypole, upwards of sixty feet in height, which still stands in the village

¹ *Assart*—a clearing in a wood, or other overgrown land, in order to adapt it for agricultural purposes; to *assart* is to make such a clearance.

² *Frankalmoign*—i.e., in perpetual tenure as a free gift of charity.

³ Yorkshire Archaeological Society Journal. Vol. xiii., pp. 103, 104, 106.

square. In 1888 the Corporation of York built a fine lock there on the River Ouse, one hundred and fifty-two feet in length, and capable of passing a vessel of four hundred tons.¹

One John Maunsell (spelled *Mansell*), of York, who died in 1507, left a rather curious will: "To be buried in my parish church aforesaid (*i.e.*, the parish of St. Peter the Little) before the rood. To the same church 3s. 4d.; and to the curate 8d. To my mother a gown of tawny and as much cotton to line it. To my eldest brother my doublet that I was wed in. To my youngest brother my prentice, a pair of shears. To Christopher Brewster of St. Leonards my wedding hose and cap. Residue to Johanne my wife, whom I make executrix."²

The testator was a "sherman," or shearer of woollen cloths; hence the very significant and appropriate bequest of a "pair of shears" to his youngest brother, who was apprenticed to him; but it is most unusual to find legatees thus mentioned in a will without their Christian names.

From the accounts of the "succentor"³ of the vicars and warden of the fabric of York minster, it appears that there was one William Maunsell of York, who for many years supplied material such as iron, nails of various sorts, etc., for use in the rebuilding and repairs of the minster.

These accounts are in Latin, with the usual abbreviations, but interspersed with the quaint names of sundry articles for which there was no Latin equivalent. Thus, an account covering the period from November 29, 1515, to November 28, 1516, runs as follows:

"Empcis Ferri et Clavorum.

"Willelmo Maunsell pro ij m et di dubblespykyng, ij. braggis, j. c shapplinges, ij et di dubl spyking, xj m et di Scotesyne, et ij m Stone broddes, 25s. 8d. Pro j. m et di duble spykyng, iiij single

¹ "History of the County of York," by Thomas Allen. Vol. ii., p. 360. "Picturesque History of Yorkshire," by J. S. Fletcher. Vol. i., p. 100.

² Yorkshire Wills.

³ "Succentor" was an assistant to the librarian (*armarius*) of a church or monastery, and apparently kept the accounts for the maintenance of the fabric.

spykyng. j. m tendil naill. j. c bragges. iij c et di sharplinges. iiij m leid naill, 28s. 4d.," etc.¹

There is another account in 1537-38 to William Maunsell, presumably the same person, though possibly his son and successor in the business.² This is probably a third William, distinct from the Escheator of York and the other, whose possible identity has been discussed on another page.

There is not much more to be said about the Maunsells of Yorkshire; there are various isolated records respecting individuals, but they are not of any interest—a parson who held some living here and there, and other similar references, evidence as to their connection with other Maunsells being entirely wanting. Indeed, the family appears to have practically disappeared from the county, at least with regard to upper and middle-class representatives.

There is an entry in the Parish Register at Rotherham, to the effect that a theological work presented to the vicars of Rotherham by the Honourable Thomas Wentworth, in 1709, was placed by the vicar, in 1729, in "the library given by Mrs. Mansel (Maunsell?)" ; but who was Mrs. Maunsell, or her husband, there is nothing to show; and this is about the latest record in the county. The parish registers have nothing to say about them.

¹ They bought their nails by the thousand; "m et di" stands for "one thousand and a half." "Scoteseyme," always spelt with a capital initial, is a curious word; it may have been the "trade" name of some article at that time, procured from Scotland.

² Surtees Society: "The Fabric Rolls of York Minster" (vol. xxv. for 1858); pp. 96, 107, 108.

CHAPTER VIII

Mansels (Maunsells) of Dorset and Somerset

THESE is but scanty record of Mansels in Dorsetshire at an early period, nor is there material for constructing a pedigree from those first mentioned to the present time.

There was a suit for recovery of lands by William Halley against John Mauncell in 1548 ; the property was in Loscombe and Porestoke (Pourstock), near Bridport ; but there is no more to be said about this John.¹

The Dorset Fines, transcribed in "Dorset Records," do not contain the name of Mansel, nor does it appear in the parish registers quoted in the same series, save in one instance ; among the Christenings at Tarrant Hinton, in 1809, appears the following : "Bishop's Visitation, Sep. 1, 1809. Elizabeth Francis and Lenora Diggle confirmed (by Mansel)." ² (This is evidently Bishop William Lort Mansel ; the See of Bristol includes Dorsetshire.)

In the year 1448 Henry Court and Thomas Maunsell, Esqrs., were seised of the Manor of Canford (or Caneford) and of the Vill of Poole, with other lands and tenements, etc. ; this Thomas also appears to be isolated ; but he is most probably identical with Thomas, Escheator of Somerset and Dorset, who flourished at this time, and who, as related in a former chapter, was entrusted by King Henry VI. with the collection and conveyance of treasure for his army in France.³

There is an allusion to Thomas Maunsell, Escheator, in 1464, as presiding at an inquisition "taken at Yevell (Yeovil ?) in Co.

¹ "Notes and Queries for Somerset and Dorset." Vol. vii. p. 119.

² "Dorset Records." Vol. viii., p. 51.

³ *Ibid* vol. i., pp. 258-261.

Dorset," who is evidently the same individual; he is twice mentioned again in these records.¹

The parish church register at Radipole, near Melcombe Regis, contains the following—

Marriages: John Munsel and Johane Pitt, 25 Feb. 1568.

John Mockett and Elinor Munsel, 15 Sept. 1574.

William Whiteway and Mary Mounsell, 16 Nov. 1598.

Burials: John Mounsell, alderman, 16 Oct. 1586.²

The name Munsel, or Mounsell, is probably identical with Mansell.

These entries are of some interest, as a descendant of John Munsel (Mounsell, or Monsell) became Baron Emly, of Tervoe, county Limerick. Burke gives the pedigree with considerable detail, dating from the marriage of John Mounsell with Joan (or Jane), daughter of John Pitt, of Causeway, February 25, 1568, as in the register; Causeway is a hamlet adjoining Radipole. The Pitt family was of long residence and of some importance in the neighbourhood; Richard Pitt, brother to Joan, who died in 1622, was four times Mayor of Weymouth. Joan married, secondly, in 1588, Thomas Barfoot, of Knowle, county Somerset.³ The Pitts in several instances married into Somerset families, and held lands in that county; Richard Pitt's second wife was Elizabeth Orchard, of North Crickett, Somerset.

John Mounsell had, according to Burke, one son, John, and three daughters, viz.: Margaret, born 1575, married in 1591 Robert Middleton of London; Joan, born 1577, married in 1594 Robert Bateman of London; Mary, born 1579, married, November 16, 1598, William Whiteway. A pedigree of Bateman by Sylvanus Morgan confirms Joan's marriage.⁴

John Mounsell, the son, of London, went to Ireland in 1612,

¹ "Notes and Queries for Somerset and Dorset." Vol. ix., pp. 293, 295. If Yeovil is meant, the scribe has placed it in the wrong county; it is in Somerset.

² "History of the County of Dorset," by John Hutchins. Vol. ii., p. 482.

³ *Ibid.*, pp. 479, 480.

⁴ "Sylloge of Gentry," by Sylvanus Morgan. Bk. i., p. 51.

and there purchased lands at Court Browne Castle, near Askeaton, county Limerick, returning to England in 1634; he married Mary (or Margery) Ash, of Westcombe, county Somerset, in 1608.

Ephraim, third son of John Mounsell, is stated to have sold his estates in Somerset and migrated to Ireland in 1644; he was apparently the first holder of the Tervoe estates, in Limerick.

His direct descendant, William Monsell—the spelling finally adopted—born September 21, 1812, was created Baron Emly of Tervoe, January 12, 1874. He died in 1894, and was succeeded by his son, Thomas William Gaston, the present Baron Emly.

The coat given in Burke is: Argent, on a chevron between three mullets, sable, a trefoil slipped, or.

There is certain evidence to hand which tends to traverse Burke's account of the family.

There was one Peter Mansel (Munsell, Mounsell) who matriculated at Brasenose College, Oxford, on December 8, 1587; B.A. July 9, 1591; M.A. July 4, 1594; admitted student of the Middle Temple April 27, 1594, as "son and heir" of John, late of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis, deceased.¹

There is further mention of this Peter in a deed, dated March 25, 1617, granting an annuity to Edward Biss and others. The grant is made by John Pitt the younger, of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis; it consists in an annuity of £10, issuing out of certain lands in Radipole and elsewhere, "for ninety-nine years if Margery, now wife of John Mounsell of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis, and Peter their son, or either of them, shall so long live, in trust to pay the same to Margery for her life, and after her death to Peter. Recites a deed of bargain and sale, May 11, 1616, by John Mounsell and Margery, his now wife, granting sundry tenements in Weymouth and Melcombe Regis to John Pitt the younger, without molestation of any persons claiming under John Mounsell and Peter Mounsell deceased, father and brother of the aforesaid John."²

Burke states that John Mounsell married Mary Ash; it

¹ "Alumni Oxonienses"; "Middle Temple Records," Vol. I., p. 342.

² "Municipal Records of the Borough of Dorchester," edited by C. H. Mayo and W. H. Gault, p. 7. N. 112.

appears probable, however, that her name was Margery. There is another deed, dated August 4, 1623; a lease of certain lands to James Aish (or Ash), "to hold for 99 years if Margery Mounsell, now wife of John Mounsell, of Courte Broome (Browne), Co. Limerick, Margaret and Mary their daughters, or either of them, shall so long live," etc.¹

Peter may thus have been correctly described as "son and heir" of the late John, at the time of his admission to the Middle Temple. Burke states that Peter the younger was living in 1683, and that his father's marriage took place in 1608, which is probably correct, though it has not been verified.

There is, however, the will of John Maunsell to be considered, and it traverses directly some of the above deductions.

This will is dated May 18, 1637, and was proved February 19, 1638, by Peter Maunsell; the following is an abstract of its contents:

"John Maunsell, Citizen and Salter of London, Merchant Adventurer of England, late of Court Brown Castle, in Co. of Limerick, aged 55 last 3rd Dec. To be buried at Radipole, in Melcombe Regis, Dorset. To the parish of Launceston 20/- in memory of my grandfather, Peter Maunsell born there, and to Blandford, where he was married and lived. My father John Maunsell was born there. He married at Melcombe Regis, where I and his six children were born. My wife Margery. £400 to £500 in the hands of John Ashe, of Freshford, near Bath. Money in the hands of Joseph Pitt, of Weymouth, and Christopher Clarke, in right of Frances, his wife, lately deceased, executrix of Phineas Pitt, late of Weymouth. Money in the hands of James Ashe, of Westcombe, Somerset, Clothier. My wife's brother John Pitt. My eldest son Peter was born at Batcombe, Nov. 25, 1616. My son Jonathan was born at Courte Browne, June 12, 1624. He is to go to Oxford. My son Ephraim was born at Courte Browne, Aug. 19, 1627. Joan my eldest child, wife of Latymer Sampson, was born at Melcombe Regis, Dec. 31, 1610." (Then follows the births of her children.) "My daughter Margaret was born Feb. 3, 1619, and my daughter Mary

¹ "Muri. p. Records of the Borough of Dorchester," edited by C. H. Mayo and W. H. Gould; p. 308 (No. 685).

was born Dec. 1, 1622. My late brother Pitt, late Alderman of Weymouth. My brother-in-law William Whiteway. My cousin Joseph Ash, of Freshford. John Pitt, junior, now resident with me. Picture of my father-in-law, Thomas Barfoot." ¹

It will be noticed that, although the name is spelled Mounsell or Munsell in the Radipole register, and the spelling finally adopted by the Irish branch is Monsell (according to Burke), in the above abstract it is spelled Maunsell. This is by no means justifiable; in the original will it is spelled, and signed, *Mounsell*. There can be little doubt that the names are actually identical. In "*Alumni Oxoniensis*" Peter's surname is given as *Mansell* or *Munsell*. The abstract of a will should, however, retain the spelling of a surname precisely as in the original.

Another point which occurs in the original is ignored in the abstract. It will be noticed that the will goes back one generation beyond John Mounsell (*d.* 1586), from whom Burke starts his genealogy. His father was Peter, of Launceston, *in Cornwall*—the two last words are omitted in the abstract; an unfortunate omission, as there happens to be a hamlet named Tarent Launston in Dorset, not far from Blandford, where, as stated in the will, Peter Mounsell lived after his marriage, and the obvious inference, failing other evidence, would be that Launceston, mentioned in the will, is identical with this place. The difference in spelling might, of course, be disregarded.

Peter, however, came from Cornwall; but there is not much to be found concerning Mounsell's of that county. One Anne Mounsell was married, in 1614, at Lansalloes, to Peter Trubody, or Trewbody; probably she was related to Peter Mounsell.²

In a paper read before the Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society, by the Rev. E. H. Bates Harbin, "*The History of the Manor of Newton Surmaville*" (which in 1608 came into the possession of the Harbin [or Harbyn] family), occurs the following:—

¹ "*Abstracts of Somersetshire Wills*," by Rev. F. Brown. Series V., p. 63. (The reference to the will at Somerset House is 19, Lxx.)

² "*The Villages of the County of Cornwall, 1620*," Hist. Soc. Cornwall, p. 10. Lansalloes is on the south coast, near Looe. (See also p. 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.)

" Since Robert Harbin began life as a merchant at Blandford, it is very probable that he came from Milton Abbas, a small village some eight miles west of that town. . . . From the date painted on his portrait it appears that Robert was born in 1526. During his residence at Blandford he married Margaret, daughter of Peter Maunsell (or Monsell), who, though a native of Launceston, was settled there in 1546, when his goods were assessed at £17. . . . However, there is no tradition that Robert was apprenticed to her father." ¹

Mr. Harbin does not supply any reference for this marriage, or other statements, but it is to be presumed that, as a member of the Harbin family, he was in possession of authority for them: probably he also possessed Robert Harbin's portrait to which he alludes.

The marriage of John Mounsell with Margery Ash has not been found, and it is worthy of note that he mentions "my wife's brother, John Pitt," and "my late brother, John Pitt, late Alderman of Weymouth." The term was constantly used, however, in wills of this period, with reference to brothers-in-law; the inference would appear to be that there was a Pitt-Ash marriage. Maunsell mentions that his eldest son Peter was born at Batcombe, Somerset; Westcombe is a hamlet about one mile from Batcombe, midway between Frome and Bruton, and Margery (or, as Burke says, Mary, though this is at variance with her husband's will), Ash was of Westcombe; her son was probably born in her father's house.

Joan Pitt, wife of John Mounsell who died in 1586, married in 1588 Thomas Barfoot; hence the allusion in the will to "my father-in-law, Thomas Barfoot." Margaret, widow of John Pitt, and mother of Joan, mentions in her will, "my daughter Joan Barfoot," and "Peter Mounsell, eldest son of my daughter Joan." ²

Burke is correct in placing Ephraim as third son of John Maunsell; but he is guilty of an anachronism further on, in stating

¹ Somersetshire Archaeological and Natural History Society: Proceedings. Vol. lvi., p. 18.

² "Abstract of Somersetshire Wills," by F. Brown. Ser. II., p. 36.

that this Ephraim, the year of whose birth he gives accurately as 1627, "sold his lands in Somerset and purchased estates in Limerick, and settled there in 1644"; he would then be only seventeen years of age. Possibly this is a misprint; no record of any such purchase appears in the Calendar of Irish papers.

Jonathan did not, apparently, go to Oxford, as his name does not appear in "*Alumni Oxoniensis*"; he was only thirteen at the time of his father's death.

From John Maunsell's will, and the deeds above quoted, the pedigree may be deduced as on page 401.

It appears, from some contemporary correspondence, that in 1642 one of John Maunsell's sons was involved in some manner with the Irish rebellion.

Thomas White, writing from Limerick to his son Francis, a prisoner in Ilchester Gaol, on September 21, 1642, says:

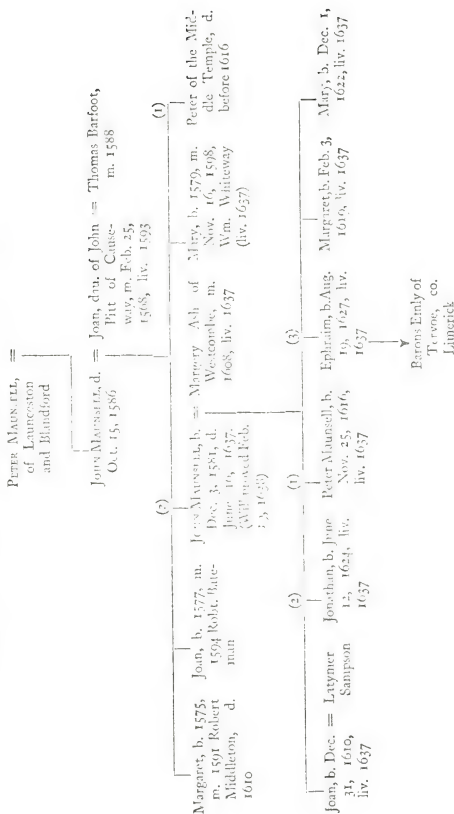
"It is vain to expect that Mr. Mansell and his company being 13 in number will be exchanged for you, inasmuch as Sir Geoffrey Gallway took him and his company prisoners for committing robberies in the river of Limerick and betraying Edward Gould and his ship to Captain Cole, who by Mansell's persuasion brought them prisoners to Cork. I cannot prevail to get Mr. Mansell dis-guarded, till he or his friends procure that you and the rest of our friends there committed with their goods be sent to Cork. Am sorry your imprisonment and that of others in England is like to prove a dear purchase, for others here are like to pay dear for you."¹

On September 30, the Earl of Cork,² writing from Youghal to Latimer Sampson, of Freshford, Somerset, says: "Concerning the means for procuring the release of Mr. Mounsell [*sic*]. Had sent an Irish footman to Limerick with Francis Whyte's letters, who is

¹ Portland MSS. (Hist. MSS. Com.). Vol. i., p. 60. It would appear, however, that Francis White had already been liberated, for in the Commons Journals, vol. iii., p. 714, the resolution is recorded "that Francis White and Hugh Clancy, Irish gentlemen, stayed at Ilchester Gaol be forthwith released from any further restraint, putting in any good security that they will not transgress the laws no ammunition," etc.

² *Peerage of Ireland*, i., 101. Created Sept. 29, 1616, Lord Roche, Baron of Youghal; Oct. 1, 1621, Viscount Dunbarvin and Earl of Cork. He and his sons took a prominent part in the suppression of the rebellion in Munster. One of his sons was killed at the battle of Lisacrel, on Sept. 3, 1642.

MAUNSELLS OF DORSET AND IRELAND



returned with the answers. Those from the merchants of Limerick show what high and insolent demands they made for exchange. I suggest therefore that the order should be procured from the Parliament to apprehend Thomas Fower . . . merchants of Limerick, and one Carney, merchant of Kilmallock, now skulking in or near London, and am confident Mr. Mounsell will thus get freed on better terms than had been proposed. I have a commander of theirs, Captain Prendergast, in prison, but they refuse to exchange Mr. Mounsell for him."¹

On December 30 John Ashe writes from Freshford to William Lenthall (Speaker of the House of Commons): "I forward these letters from Ireland from the Earl of Cork, one written by himself, the other two from the rebels of Limerick. The reason I send them is that about the end of June, upon the petition of Mr. Latimer Sampson, Mr. Mounsell's brother-in-law, you ordered that two Irishmen taken on suspicion at Minehead named White and Clansy should be kept in safe custody till the House ordered their enlargement, which was done to gain the release of the said Mr. Mounsell. . . . This Mr. Mounsell now in miserable captivity is my father's sister's son, and hath lost an estate in Ireland near the value of £10,000, out of which he was to pay his brothers' and sisters' portions, who are now all undone and live upon the charity of their friends."²

John Ashe was nephew to Margery, wife of John Maunsell. It is not clear which of John Maunsell's sons is alluded to in these letters, as his Christian name is not mentioned; nor does the statement that he was to provide portions for his brothers and sisters out of his Irish estates agree with the provisions of John Maunsell's will, quoted above. It is probable, however, that this was Peter, the eldest son; there is no information to be found concerning his ultimate release.

Robert Middleton, who married Margaret, daughter of John Maunsell, was of the family of Middleton of Chirk Castle, county

¹ Portland MSS.; vol. i., pp. 63, 64.

² *Ibid.*, pp. 82, 83.

Denbigh. He was a merchant established in Mincing Lane, parish of St. Dunstan in the East, and was one of the original Adventurers in the Virginia Company, and also in the East India and North-West Passage Companies; was M.P. for Melcombe Regis, 1603-4, and for the City of London, 1614; he died in 1616, his wife, Margaret, having died in 1610.

On November 9, 1676, administration of the estate of Thomas Mansell, of Sherborne, was granted to Honor, his widow; she died before March 8, 1679, as on that date administration of her estate was granted to Simon, Thomas, and Honor, her children; and there was a further grant on August 5, 1685, of administration of Thomas Mansell's estate to his son Thomas, "Honor, relict, not having fully administered."¹

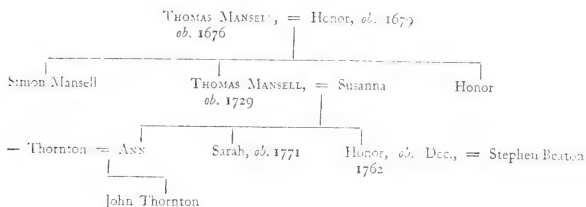
It was probably this Thomas, the son of Thomas and Honor, who placed in Sherborne Minster a tablet in commemoration of a remarkable hailstorm and flood which occurred on May 16, 1709, and did considerable damage to the pavement, etc., in the church. According to W. B. Wildman, in "Notes and Queries," this Thomas who erected the tablet was "the son of Thomas Mansell of the same place, and he entered Sherborne School *circa* 1660. He was chosen a Governor of the school in 1691, and acted as Warden of the Governors in 1702-3, in 1713-14, and 1724-5. He was churchwarden in 1694-5, in 1703-4, and in 1704-5, and is described as Thomas Mansell, gentleman."

There is a will of Thomas Mansell of Sherborne, apothecary, dated April 2, 1729, and proved in the same year. He desires to be buried in Sherborne church, "in my father's sepulchre," and that the date of his death may "be inserted under my wife's monument." The property bequeathed included a house in the borough of Newland in Sherborne and a living "called Hound street in the Manor of Sherborne," and the legatees were a wife named Susanna, daughters named Ann Thornton, Honor Beaton, and Sarah Mansell, and a grandson named John Thornton.²

¹ "Notes and Queries for Somerset and Dorset." Vol. v., pp. 207, 210, 302.

² *Ibid.*, vol. vii., pp. 168, 203, 204.

So here we have, at any rate, four generations of Mansell of Sherborne :



There is no mention of any Mansell monument in Sherborne Minster in Hutchins' History of Dorset ; the dates of the decease of Sarah Mansell and Honor Beaton, her sister, are recorded upon a tablet.

Thomas Mansell left particular instructions concerning his funeral ; his body was to be " sung to church by several of the best singers the organist shall appoint, and a psalm of thanksgiving to be sung immediately after the sermon," etc. ; also the funeral, if in summer, was to take place not later than four o'clock, and if in winter not later than ten o'clock. He appointed his unmarried daughter, Sarah, his sole executrix, though his wife was living, which is certainly unusual. This family of Mansells of Sherborne appears to have become extinct with the death of Sarah in 1771, unless her uncle, Simon, had issue ; no record of such issue has been found.

On August 25, 1680, administration of the estate of William Mansell, of Weymouth, was granted to his widow, Joyce ; a further grant was made on December 12, 1681, to Hannah Street, widow, daughter of William Mansell (Joyce having died without fully administering). William is named in the second grant as of Meicombe Regis, which is practically the same as Weymouth ; and he is said to have died on board the *New Oxford*, frigate. There was a fifty-four gun-ship named the *Oxford* in commission at that time, but no record appears to exist of any vessel called *New Oxford*. The *Oxford* was launched in 1674, and superseded a much smaller vessel of the

same name, which was probably broken up by that time. Seamen may possibly have christened the larger vessel *New Oxford* when she first went afloat, and the name would stick to her among the crew.¹

There was one John Mauncell who, in the year 1455, was granted the appointment of Controller of the Customs in the port of Pole (Poole), Dorset; it does not necessarily follow, however, that he was of the Dorset branch, and there is no connection to be traced.²

The later connection of the Mansels with Dorset lies further east, in the neighbourhood of Kimmeridge, and of interborne, near Blandford.

"Kimmeridge is a quaint little village, something like a capital T in shape, the cross at the top being composed of the church, vicarage, and a farm, and the centre stroke of a row of small flower-decked cottages with thatched roofs. The church, till recently one of the twenty-two churches that were donatives, has a Norman door and gables, and is very small and plain, the chief object of interest being the tomb of Sir William Clavell, knight banneret."³

Kimmeridge lies close to the bay of the same name, and within the parish is the manor of Smedmore, which was held at the time of Domesday by one Richard, of William de Braose. Richard's descendants, as so frequently occurred, became known as de Smedmore (variously spelt; it is *Metmore* in Domesday); and these Smedmores held the lands until early in the fifteenth century, when they passed to the Wyots. Somewhere about 1420, on the failure of heirs male, Johanna Wyot became sole heir; she married John

¹ "Notes and Queries for Somerset and Dorset." Vol. v., pp. 257, 259. "The Royal Navy," by W. Laird Clowes. Vol. iii., pp. 111, 243, 349.

² Cal. Patent Roll, 1452-1461; p. 202.

³ "In and Around the Isle of Purbeck," by Ida Woodward; pp. 73, 74. The so-called "Isle of Purbeck" is in reality a peninsula, about twelve miles by ten, bounded on the north by the River Frome and by Poole Harbour, on the east and south by the English Channel, and on the west by an imaginary line drawn northward from Werbarrow Bay; it is famous for its stone quarries. The volume from which the above description is taken is a very pleasantly written account of the locality, giving adequate information without too much prolixity of detail; it is illustrated by a series of delightful drawings in water-colour by Mr. J. W. G. Jones; some of these are veritable little gems, and their arrangement, reproduction, and artistic effect of the entire work.

"Donative" land, that is, land given to a religious house, and which was held without presentation to or investiture by the lay lord.

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Clavell (or Clavyle), and thus Smedmore came into the possession of this family, who held it for about four hundred years.

The Clavells probably came of a Norman family, and Walter de Clavell is said to have come over with the Conqueror; it was certainly of ancient origin, and is the only family mentioned in Domesday which has still a representative in the Isle of Purbeck.

The Clavells do not appear, however, to have been prominent, either as soldiers or statesmen. Sir William, to whose tomb in Kimmeridge church reference has already been made, is said to have had a command in Ireland during the Tyrone rebellion, at the end of Queen Elizabeth's reign, and to have been knighted for his services; but his name only occurs once in State Papers of that time, without any title, as "an agent of the Lord President"; nor does it appear in Morgan's "Sphere of Gentry" or Shaw's "Knights." He was knighted, however, for we have come across him before in connection with Vice-Admiral Sir Robert Mansel and the glass business. Sir William Clavell, like many others, found himself worsted when he endeavoured to interfere with the admiral's monopoly, and in fact spent some weeks in the Marshalsea prison for his pains.¹

The inscription upon his tomb in Kimmeridge church runs as follows:

"Within this marble casket lies
He who was learned, stout and wise,
Who would for no expense conceall
His projects for the common weall:
And when disloyall Irish did
Rebell against the Queene their head,
Approved valour then did gett
Him the reward of Bannerett."

Sir William's loyalty and valour did not obtain for him sufficient fame for his name to appear in the Dictionary of National Biography; but one John Clavell, a nephew of his, is noticed therein by reason of his misdeeds and subsequent pardon. Apparently, after throwing away every penny in gambling and other undesirable pastimes, he "took to the road," as a highwayman, and, after some

¹ *Ibid* vol. i., p. 402.

success in this capacity, was caught in 1627, and condemned to death. He found favour, however, with the king and queen, and was eventually pardoned; and, in common with a good many other shady characters of those days, devoted his leisure time in prison to writing a long self-conscious screed in verse, setting forth the iniquity of his own life, and warning his readers against the wiles of robbers like himself, and so forth. It is styled "A Recantation of an ill-led Life; or a Discovery of the Highway Law"; it went into three editions, and is said to have been published by express command of the king. The publisher, in a foreword to the third edition, remarks that "it is become very disputable amongst wise men, whether they should more admire (*i.e.*, marvel at) his former ill ways, or his now most singular reformation."

Sir William had no issue, and John, his brother's son, would naturally have been his heir; but he was entirely ignored, the estates being willed to Roger Clavell of Winfrith, a distant cousin.

There is an excellent Clavell Pedigree in Hutchins' History of Dorset (vol. i., p. 570), but it is not necessary to trace it in detail from the beginning; the subjoined summary of the later steps sufficiently indicates the final devolution of the estates.

From this it is clear that George, the last male representative of the Clavells, devised his estates to his nephew, William Richards, eldest son of his sister Margaret, with the stipulation that he should assume the name and arms of Clavell. William died without issue, and was succeeded by his brother John, who also assumed the name and arms of Clavell; he died unmarried in 1833, when the estates devolved upon the co-heirs, his eldest sister, Mrs. Pleydell—or, as she was then deceased, her issue—and Maria Sophia, his youngest sister. The latter bequeathed her moiety to Mrs. Mansel, who had already inherited one share as co-heir, and who obtained a further share by gift from her sister, Lady Bingham. The remaining shares were purchased by Colonel John Mansel, who thus became possessed of the whole of the estates.

Lieutenant-Colonel John Mansel was an enthusiastic soldier of some distinction. He entered the army in 1795, and saw active service in many parts of the world. The following notice appeared

CLAVELL-MANSEL PEDIGREE

EDWARD CLAVELL, = Elizabeth, dau. of
of Smedmore, b. George Damer
1675, d. 1738 of Dorchester,
liv. April 19,
1753

Edward, *d.s.p.*, 1744

John, *d.s.p.*

GEORGE CLAVELL, = Mary, dau. of Wm.
of Smedmore, b. Castle of Middle-
1725, d. 1774; sex, d. 1794
devide estates to his nephew, Wm. Richards

Walter, *d.s.p.*,
1712

MARGARET, =
d. 1817

William Richards
of Warmwell,
Dorset, Esq., d.
1803

ELIZABETH MAR-
GARETTA, b. 1754,
d. before 1833

= Edmund Morton
Poydell, of
Whatcombe,
co. Dorset

William Richards,
of Smedmore, by
the will of Geo.
Clavell assumed
the name and
arms of Clavell;
b. 1755, d. 1817,
s.p.

= Sophia, eld. dau. of
Rich. Bingham,
d. 1841

Edward, b. 1758,
d. 1803

John Richards,
rector of Church
Knoll, heir of
his brother; as-
sumed the name
and arms of Cla-
vell, d. unmar.,
June 14, 1833

Maria Sophia, b
1760, d. unmar.,
Oct. 30, 1833

LOUISA, dau. and = JOHN MANSEL, fourth son of Sir Wm.
co-heir, d. May Mansel, 9th Barr. of Muddlescombe,
6, 1863 J.R. Colonel 53rd Regt., b. Aug.
1776, d. Jan. 29, 1863

Arms : Argent, on a chevron sable, three caps of maintenance argent. Crest : A buck's head erased, and pierced between the horns by an arrow.

Burke has also for *Clavell* of Dorset : Vair, a chief gules ; and this appears in the second and third quarters of the shield appended to the pedigree in Hutchins' History of Dorset.

in the *Gentleman's Magazine* at the time of his death, January 29, 1863 :

“ Colonel John Mansel, C.B., of Smedmore, Co. Dorset, entered the British army as ensign in the 53rd Regiment. He embarked in 1795 for the West Indies, and sailed in that ill-fated fleet commanded by Sir H. Christian. He was present in the attack on Morne Chabot, at the siege of Morne Fortunée, in the island of St. Lucia; the whole of the Carib war in St. Vincent; at the capture of Trinidad, and at the siege of Moro Castle, in the island of Porto Rico. In 1805 he was promoted to a majority without purchase. In 1807 he joined the 1st Battalion 53rd Regiment in Bengal. In 1809-10, in consequence of a disturbance in Madras, his regiment formed part of an expedition under Colonel Martindell (Bengal army). In August, 1811, he joined the second battalion in Spain; he was selected to command all the light companies of the sixth division during the campaigns of 1811-12, which included the skirmish with the enemy's cavalry near Carpio, when Major-General Anson's brigade of cavalry was attacked by superior numbers and forced to retreat. At this juncture, the light troops under Mansel's command succeeded in gaining the rear of the enemy, killing and capturing men and horses. He was present at the sieges of Ciudad Rodrigo, Badajos, the forts of Salamanca, and at the battle of Salamanca. In this memorable conflict the command of the regiment devolved upon him, and for it he received the gold war medal, and was promoted to the rank of Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel. During this action his horse was killed under him. He commanded a brigade of the sixth division during the pursuit of the enemy to Arevola. He then returned to his regiment, and remained in command of it until the arrival of the army before Burgos. In 1813 he led the second provisional battalion, composed of four companies of the Queen's and four of the 53rd Regiment, during the operations on the Garonne, and in the general action at Toulouse, for which he received a clasp. He headed a brigade in the fourth division at Eaux for a considerable time, and on the march to Bordeaux the command of the whole division devolved upon him. The second battalion 53rd Regiment having been selected to garrison the island of St. Helena, Lieu-

tenant-Colonel Mansel took the command of it on the promotion of his brother-in-law, Sir George Bingham, K.C.B., to the brevet rank of General. He was made Companion of the Bath at the institution of that order, and retired from the service in 1827."¹

This account, contributed no doubt by a member of the family, may be accepted as accurate in substance. Sir Hugh Christian's fleet is alluded to as "ill-fated"; and in fact he was twice turned back in the Channel by stormy weather. On the first occasion several of the convoy foundered, others were driven on shore; more than two hundred dead bodies were picked up on the coast between Portland and Brixport; the men-of-war put back to Spithead, all more or less damaged. At the second attempt, December 9, 1795, the fleet was again scattered; the *Glory* (flagship) with five others and about fifty of the convoy got back to Spithead; the rest of the men-of-war and some of the convoy arrived in the West Indies; many were lost, many were captured.

Christian arrived at Barbadoes at the end of April, and thence proceeded, in concert with Sir Ralph Abercrombie, to the conquest of St. Lucia. This beautiful island had already seen many vicissitudes in the matter of ownership. In 1748 the British and French agreed to consider it "neutral," but in 1762 it surrendered to Admiral Rodney; in the following year, by the treaty of Paris, it was declared French; was captured by Britain in 1778, restored to France by the peace of Versailles in 1783, surrendered to Admiral Jervis (Lord St. Vincent) in 1794. Victor Hugues, a partisan of Robespierre, however, got together an army chiefly composed of insurgent slaves—alluded to by the British as "the Brigands"—and made it so hot for our men, already greatly exhausted, and reduced by yellow fever, that we evacuated the island on June 18, 1795.

It was to reverse this mishap that the expedition started from Barbadoes in 1796, and John Mansel, ensign, was one of the units therein. He had escaped the peril of the Channel gales, where too many of his comrades had perished, and was now to taste his first experience of actual warfare.

¹ *Gentleman's Magazine* (New Series). Vol. xiv., p. 395.

Unfortunately, the troops under Sir Ralph Abercrombie were mostly raw recruits, and, we are told, the officers were little better ; so that the task which should have been, against forces little better than a rabble, something of a " walk-over," was nothing of the sort.

The 53rd appears, however, to have been composed of some better stuff than this ; at the capture of Morne Chabot—where John Mansel probably received his " baptism of fire"—the regiment came in for some rough handling, and carried the post in gallant fashion, in spite of the non-arrival of another column, which was to have participated in the attack. In the account given in the " History of the British Army," it is stated that the whole of the casualties—seventy killed and wounded—fell upon the flank companies of the 53rd Regiment ; and this is corroborated in the regimental records, according to which the loss was one drummer and twelve rank and file killed. Captain Charles Stuart, Lieutenants Richard Collins and John Carmichael, two sergeants, and forty-four rank and file wounded : one drummer and eight privates missing. Sir Ralph Abercromby thanked the regiment on parade for its good services, and promised to mention it to H.R.H. the Duke of York.¹

The regiment returned to England in 1802 ; Mansel, after some service in Ireland, during part of which time he was—as major—in command of the 2nd Battalion, newly formed, embarked for India with a draft of two hundred men for the 1st Battalion, on April 22, 1806.

He returned to England early in 1811, and thence joined the 2nd Battalion, on September 18, to take his part in the more important theatre of the Peninsular War.

Wellington's position towards the end of 1811 was by no means satisfactory ; he was not strong enough to take the offensive, and had been compelled to fall back within the Portuguese frontier. In the early winter, however, Napoleon himself came to Wellington's aid, and opened the way for a British attack. He separated 15,000 of General Marmont's army, sending them across to take part in the invasion of Valencia. Wellington resolved to take immediate

¹ " History of the British Army," vol. xiv., p. 425. " Historical Record of the 53rd Regiment," vol. i., p. 23.

advantage of this disintegration of the enemy's forces, and to besiege and capture Ciudad Rodrigo before they could concentrate against him. It was a time problem, as all concerned thoroughly realised, and the British, from general to private, toiled incessantly to complete the preparation for the final assault. Two knolls, or hillocks, named the Greater and Lesser Teson, commanded the town on the north side; the French had constructed a redoubt on the former to prevent it from falling into our hands. The first thing was to gain possession of this work, and Wellington ordered the Light Division, under General Cranford, to perform this task. Mansel's regiment was no doubt in this division; but it was to the 52nd, a corps of sturdy veterans who had already distinguished themselves on many occasions, that the duty fell: with three companies, Colonel Colborne assaulted and captured the redoubt in ten minutes, with the trifling loss of six killed and nineteen wounded.

On January 14, 1812, after five days' work under fire, the batteries on the Greater Teson opened fire upon the northern angle of the defences; the convent of San Francisco, a huge building in a suburb on the east, was captured on the following day: another battery on the slope of the Lesser Teson opened fire on the 18th, to make a second breach. Both breaches were considered to be practicable on the 19th, and at dusk the columns moved out to their respective positions. The Light Division had the easier task, as their breach had been more recently made, and the enemy had not had time to retrench within it; in a few minutes they were over it, driving the enemy from the ramparts. At the other breach more adequate preparation had been made, and a mine was exploded just as the storming party topped the broken wall, killing and maiming a number of men—among them General Mackinnon, whose body was found at some distance. However, the assault was completely successful, and Ciudad Rodrigo was ours. It does not appear, from Sir William Napier's and other histories of the war, that the 53rd Regiment took part in the actual storming of the breaches; indeed, in the regimental record, already quoted, it is stated that: "In January (1812) when Lord Wellington besieged and captured Ciudad Rodrigo, the 53rd was at Penna Verde; but it advanced to the

frontiers on the approach of the French army ; when it withdrew the 53rd fell back to Grajal. They subsequently traversed the country to Elvas, and formed part of the covering army during the siege of Badajoz, which was captured by storm on the 6th of April.”¹

Penna Verde and Grajal cannot be located, either in the general atlas or in the military maps in Fortescue's work ; possibly the names have been wrongly spelled in the regimental record ; but the account here given clashes with that in the obituary notice above quoted, which distinctly states that Colonel Mansel was present at Ciudad Rodrigo and Badajos. Elvas is within the Portuguese frontier, about twelve miles west of Badajos ; Carpio, where the skirmish with the enemy's cavalry is said to have taken place, is about nine miles west of Ciudad Rodrigo.

Following these successful operations came the two battles—first that which is known as the Salamanca Forts, and afterwards that of Salamanca.

The French had fortified three convents which commanded the bridge at Salamanca with considerable ingenuity, in which they left a garrison of eight hundred men. These forts being too strong to be taken by assault, the 6th Division—which included the 53rd Regiment—was ordered to besiege them. On June 16th parallels were dug within two hundred yards of the most important work, San Vincente ; the workers suffered considerably, the distance being so short, and the height of the building giving the enemy complete command. When the heavy artillery—four eighteen-pounders and two twenty-four pounder howitzers—arrived upon the scene, their attack was sadly discounted by the shortage of ammunition. On the 23rd an attempt was made to storm one of the smaller works, but the breach was not practicable, the scaling ladders were inefficient, and the attempt was abandoned, with considerable loss.

On the 27th, however, a flag of truce was displayed from San Vincente, and Wellington gave the French five minutes to surrender ; while they were parleying, a Portuguese regiment very

¹ “ History of the British Army,” by W. J. Fortescue. Vol. iv., p. 59.

promptly and opportunely gained an entrance unopposed, and settled the business. The 53rd had three killed and seven wounded in this affair; Lieutenant J. A. Devonish died of wounds before the capitulation.

A considerable time was now occupied in following up the French army towards the Douro, and in retiring once more towards Salamanca, the French having been considerably reinforced.

Early on the morning of July 22 Marshal Marmont seized one of two circular hills, named Arapiles, on the plain, the allied army simultaneously occupying the other. Wellington played a waiting game, and during the afternoon, with characteristic acumen, perceived his chance. Marmont, in an endeavour to turn the right flank of the allied forces, presented a weak spot, and the 3rd Division, falling upon the left flank of the French, carried all before them.

The 6th Division had been moved up to the support of the 4th, which was opposed to the strongest part of the enemy's line. Before the 11th and 61st Regiments had succeeded in driving the enemy from the high ground on which they had successfully resisted the attack of the 4th Division, the 53rd Regiment was brought up to support the 23rd Portuguese Regiment, and having less ground to cover, came into action sooner than the rest of the brigade; the Portuguese regiment, which had suffered considerably, retreating, left the 53rd in a very perilous position, confronted by a large body of infantry and cavalry, and exposed to a flank fire from the Arapiles. Casualties becoming numerous, the regiment fell back in good order until the remainder of the brigade came into line. This little independent manoeuvre of the 53rd is mentioned with approval by Napier in his History of the Peninsular War; whether Colonel Bingham or Major Mansel was in command at the moment is not clear. The enemy's cavalry advanced to sabre this small force—there were not more than two hundred and forty men of the 53rd under arms that day, by reason of previous casualties—but the British regiment formed square and stood firm, and the cavalry were forced to retire.

The 53rd was on the left of the 6th Division in the final attack, and again suffered considerably; night brought a termination

of hostilities, and victory to the allied forces, eleven guns and seven thousand prisoners remaining in their hands.

In the official report the 6th Division is stated to have "restored the fortune of the day," and Colonel Bingham is mentioned by name. He and Major Mansel received afterwards the Peninsula gold medal.¹

"Lieutenant-Colonel Bingham having been wounded and obliged to quit the field, the command of the battalion in the latter part of the action devolved on Major Mansel, who added to the reputation which he had obtained by his coolness and conduct during his long service in the regiment."²

Such is the comment of the writer of the regimental records; and there is indication in more than one place of the esteem in which Mansel was held by his brothers in arms.

On the day after the action, Major-General Hulse, who commanded the brigade, was placed in command of the 5th Division; and in the absence of his chief, Colonel Bingham, Mansel now found himself a brigadier, being selected for the command of the brigade, which he held during the pursuit of the enemy to Arevalo.³ Bingham, however, recovered rapidly from his wound, and on August 16 assumed command of the brigade, Mansel commanding his regiment.

Colonel Mansel was with the regiment at the commencement of the siege of Burgos—September 19, 1812—but, according to the regimental record, he was invalided home on October 7, suffering from fever and ague, and so was not present when the siege was raised on the 21st of that month.⁴

There is no further mention of Colonel Mansel in these records until early in 1814, when he commanded the regimental dépôt at

¹ Colonel John Mansel's medal is now in the possession of his grandson, Canon J. C. Morton Mansel-Plydell. It is known as the smaller Peninsula Gold Medal: the larger one was bestowed upon general officers. The two are precisely similar in design; on the obverse is a figure of Britannia, holding a wreath, a lion beside her; on the reverse of Colonel Mansel's medal is engraved "Salamanca," and there is a clasp for Toulouse. The gold medal is skilfully enclosed in slightly concave silver of brilliant quality, and forms a very handsome decoration.

² "Historical Record of the 53rd Regiment," p. 69.

³ So spelled in the atlas and military maps—not *Arevala*, as in the obituary notice.

⁴ In the regimental records it is stated that Colonel Mansel embarked at St. Andero—probably Santander, on the north coast of Spain.

Brabourne Lees, in Kent ; whence, the remnants of six companies which had been sent home having been restored to their proper strength, they sailed once more, on March 3, for Spain, under Mansel's command—he being now brevet lieutenant-colonel. On April 3 he took command of the 2nd Provisional Battalion, and assisted at the battle of Toulouse ; his brother, Captain Robert Christopher Mansel, was also present with the Light Infantry.

Upon the suspension of hostilities after the battle of Toulouse, Mansel with the Provisional Battalion marched to Valence, and subsequently, on May 7, 1814, to Eaux, where he once more commanded a brigade ; and on June 7, when Wellington reviewed the troops encamped at Blankfort previous to their departure from France, Mansel was in command of the 4th Division.

The 53rd sailed for Cork on June 22, arriving on July 4 ; and, after a brief sojourn at Kinsale, sailed for Spithead, and arrived on August 1, marching on the 2nd to quarters at Hilsea, just outside Portsmouth.

Here Colonel Bingham, who had returned to England in January on urgent private affairs, rejoined the battalion, and in a Regimental Order issued on September 24, after congratulating the officers and men upon their good conduct and appearance, adds : " He particularly thanks Lieutenant-Colonel Mansel for his care and attention, and congratulates him on commanding in so distinguished a manner as he did the four companies at Toulouse. He ceases to regret not having been present, knowing how well his place was supplied."

A handsome and generous tribute, and no doubt well deserved.

In April, 1815, the battalion being then quartered in Portsmouth, the renewed outbreak of hostilities consequent upon Napoleon's escape from Elba caused great activity in recruiting ; the 53rd was not, however, called upon to take part in this brief campaign ; but on July 28 the 2nd Battalion received orders to prepare for immediate embarkation for " distant service," which there was little doubt, meant the Island of St. Helena, where it had been decided to intern Napoleon, who had surrendered himself to Captain Maitland, of the *Bellerophon*, after Waterloo.

The 53rd, and a company of Royal Artillery, with six guns, embarked on August 1, Colonel Sir George Bingham—he had been made K.C.B. on January 2—being in command of the troops, and Major Fehrszen of the battalion; Lieutenant-Colonel Mansel having obtained permission to remain at home on leave.¹ Colonel Mansel did not, in fact, join his regiment in St. Helena until May 3, 1816.

Sir Hudson Lowe arrived on April 14, 1816, to assume his duties as governor and commander-in-chief, and Sir George Bingham was appointed brigadier-general on the staff of the island.

Of Napoleon's captivity in St. Helena much has been written—perhaps too much.

When the ex-emperor surrendered himself to the British Government, he must certainly have anticipated some such fate; and he must as surely have expected that a more secure place of confinement, and more stringent measures to render escape impossible, would be adopted.

The island of St. Helena was an ideal place of detention for the mighty disturber of the peace of the world; no one questions this fact, or has ever questioned it; nor can there be any doubt that such measures as were adopted to ensure the safe custody of the prisoner were reasonable and necessary.

Nevertheless, from the earliest period of his captivity there were endless intrigues, bitter criticisms, unjustifiable accusations of cruel treatment, etc., launched in the first instance by his immediate staff and companions, and in many instances more or less accepted or condoned by later writers on the subject.

Sir Hudson Lowe, the governor and commander-in-chief, has, of course, been the target for most of these poisoned shafts. Probably he was not, in some respects, the best man for the post; he was lacking in tact, in the power of combining *fortiter in re* with *suaviter in modo*—a rare gift, when all is said and done—but he did his duty, securely guarded his charge until the end; and there is abundant evidence that, among those who knew him, officially or

¹ In order to be married. His first wife had died July 25, 1806. His second marriage took place in July or August, 1815: the announcement appears in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for August, "lately," without precise date.

otherwise, he was by no means regarded as a cruel or unreasonable man. On the contrary, he is frequently alluded to as a kind-hearted, courteous gentleman; and that he was after Napoleon's death, cruelly calumniated and unjustly ostracised there can be no question.

Sir George Bingham sailed for St. Helena on board the *Northumberland*, which carried Napoleon; he kept a journal on the voyage, in which he makes some interesting comments upon the bearing of the ex-emperor, describes conversations with him, and so forth. This journal, together with some letters to Lady Bingham, and other correspondence, appeared in the *Cornhill Magazine* for January and February, 1901.¹ The originals, it is stated, "were collected after Napoleon's death and copied into three books by Miss Margaretta Pleydell, whose great-grandniece, Miss Dorothy Mansel-Pleydell, has been at the pains of making a fresh copy with a view to publication."

(Miss Margaretta Pleydell was sister to Louisa Pleydell, Colonel John Mansel's second wife; Miss Dorothy Mansel-Pleydell is the daughter of Canon J. C. Mansel-Pleydell, Colonel Mansel's grandson—now Mrs. Pelham Smith.)

Napoleon appears to have conversed with considerable ingenuousness about his own exploits and plans, but displayed a curious mixture of ignorance and acumen when discussing general subjects.

Writing to Lady Bingham on April 19, 1816, Sir George says: "I called on Bonaparte last Sunday, before the *Phaeton* had anchored, to announce to him the arrival of the new Governor. He received me in his bedroom *en robe de chambre*, and a dirtier figure I never beheld! He was pleased with the compliment. He received Sir Hudson Lowe with marked attention, behaving at the same time in a manner pointedly rude to Sir George Cockburn (the Admiral). You have no idea of the dirty little intrigues of himself and his set; if Sir H. Lowe has firmness enough not to give way to them, he will in a short time treat him in the same manner."

This was a true forecast; Sir Hudson Lowe set about doing

¹ "More Light on St. Helena"; *Cornhill Magazine*, vol. xi, pp. 18-36, 155-174. Lady Bingham was Emma, younger daughter of Edmund Merton Pleydell, and sister of J. C. Mansel's wife.

his duty, if not with consummate tact, at least with conscientious aim; and thereby incurred the bitter animosity of Napoleon and his set, whose accusations, as has already been remarked, were too readily accepted in many quarters.

Napoleon would sometimes shut himself up, and refuse to be seen for days; this was in direct contravention of the instructions issued to the governor by Lord Bathurst,¹ that he was to be seen daily—surely a most reasonable and necessary provision under the circumstances. Indeed, it is not easy to see how Sir Hudson Lowe could fulfil the conditions of his position without such precaution; unless he could see his prisoner daily he certainly could not be sure that the latter had not somehow effected his escape; and there were several schemes afoot to this end.

In a letter from Major Harrison to Sir George Bingham, after the latter had gone home, there is an amusing description of the manner in which this "viewing" of the captive was accomplished on one occasion. It is dated August 14, 1819:

"I told you in my last letter that Napoleon had shown a strong disposition towards seclusion again. A short time ago he did not appear for some days; he, however, came to his senses again; but about ten days ago he had a relapse, and did not show himself till yesterday, when the Governor was about to proceed in a way that I believe I should have had to superintend. I need not attempt to impress on your mind what a set of rascals they are at Longwood, but I will relate to you how it was brought about. When Bonaparte shut himself up, the Governor wrote him a letter enclosing him a copy of his instructions from Lord Bathurst, relating to his being seen every day. This letter both Bertrand and Montholon refused two or three times to receive.² On the 11st instant the Governor

¹ Henry, third Earl Bathurst (1762-1834); he was Secretary for War and the Colonies in Lord Liverpool's ministry, and subsequently, under the Duke of Wellington, Lord President of the Council.

² Napoleon's establishment at Longwood comprised the following persons: Count Bertrand, Count de Montholon, Count de Las Cases, Baron Gourgard, Monsieur Emanuel de Las Cases, Captain Pioutkowski; Countess Bertrand, Countess de Montholon, three children of the former and one of the latter; six valets of various degrees, a *maître d'hôtel*, cook, confectioner, two grooms, two valets for Count Bertrand, a maid for each of the ladies—total, twenty-seven. (See "Napoleon in Exile: St. Helena," by Norwood Young. Vol. i., pp. 157, 158.)

sent Colonel Wynyard up with the letter, and directed him to take me with him. His instructions were to give the letter to Captain Nichols (orderly officer), who was first to offer it to Montholon ; but he was ill and could not be seen. He was then directed in my presence to offer it to Bertrand. We then proceeded to Longwood. Captain Nichols said, ' Here is a letter for General Bonaparte from the Governor ; will you take it ? ' but Bertrand refused to do so. Captain Nichols was then instructed to say, ' There is an officer of the Governor's personal staff waiting with a letter from the Governor ; will you inform him of it ? ' Bertrand's reply was, ' If the Governor will communicate with the Emperor in the usual manner through me, I will do it ' ; he then left him. The next part of the instructions to be carried out was that Colonel Wynyard was to go to the front door of the house, knock, and ask to be admitted to the presence of Bonaparte. In the event of no one answering, he was to try the door, and, if open, to proceed till he came to the room in which he was, but not to use any force. The door was locked. Colonel Wynyard, having executed these orders, ordered me to accompany Captain Nichols and try another door, which leads from the kitchen to the dining-room ; this we did, but to no purpose. Colonel W. then went away and reported the whole to the Governor, who was perfectly satisfied. Yesterday I again received an order from Gorrequer to go immediately to Longwood. When I arrived there I found Captain Nichols had received instructions to see Bonaparte ; Nichols sent for Marchand (Napoleon's chief valet-de-chambre) and said, ' I am directed by the Governor to see Bonaparte.' Marchand's reply, through Verling, the interpreter, was, ' The Emperor had a bad night last night, and is now in his bath.' Nichols said, ' Will you deliver a message to Bonaparte to say I must see him ? ' Marchand flatly refused, and said it must be done by the Grand Marshal. Nichols had then nothing to do but, as before, to try the doors, which were locked ; he then retired to make his report, and I left him, of course expecting to be called again in the afternoon, or as soon as the answer could come from the Governor. Just after I had left Nichols, and he had made out his report, Bertrand came to him and asked him what he wanted ; did he wish to

see the Emperor? He replied, 'Yes, it was all he wanted.' Bertrand said, 'If you will go past the window of the room in which the bath is, you will see him.' Nichols went back to his room, took off his red jacket, put on his blue great-coat, returned, found the window open, and his Imperial Majesty up to his neck in water. The object was thus attained and he retired. But what do you think of our friends at Longwood now?"

Well, one can only think that they wanted to make things as difficult as possible for the governor, and to manufacture evidence of his alleged cruelty and perversity; but he was merely acting upon his instructions from the Government, and, it must be reiterated, very reasonable instructions.

Lord Rosebery is very strong in his condemnation of Sir Hudson Lowe for refusing Napoleon any other title than that of General Bonaparte; it was perhaps unnecessarily galling, an instance of Lowe's want of tact; but it was a quite logical position, after all.

There is only one letter from Colonel Mansel in this collection, dated June 14, 1816: "We neither hear nor see much of Bonaparte now; I fancy he confines himself much more than usual to the house, which will tend to increase his corpulence. He appears to be dropsical, and his complexion is very sallow; in short, he looks exceedingly out of health. I understand the Governor is rather desirous to move him to Plantation House (the Governor's own residence), being suspicious of his attempting to escape, which makes Sir Hudson uneasy and feel somewhat alarmed; for this he has not the slightest cause, as he is perfectly secure both by sea and land." It is not stated to whom this letter is addressed.

On May 30 Lady Bingham writes: "On Tuesday I went with Sir George Bingham and Colonel Mansel to pay a visit to Bonaparte. . . . After asking me a few frivolous questions, he desired me to walk into the garden, handed me out, and did me the honour, as I afterwards found it was intended, to walk with his head uncovered. . . . He asked me several questions about Louisa, and made some remark relating to her husband and herself, but this I lost as, owing to his speaking so remarkably fast, it is sometimes with the utmost difficulty he can be understood."

On July 17, 1817, the 53rd embarked for England, having been relieved by the 66th, from India. Sir Hudson Lowe, in a General Order, spoke very highly of the good services of Sir George Bingham and Lieutenant-Colonel Mansel. The battalion joined the *dépôt* at Canterbury on September 25, and on October 21 was reduced, the officers being placed on half-pay from that date.

As has already been remarked, too much has been written about Napoleon's captivity in St. Helena, and he has been represented in some quarters as an injured and persecuted individual. There is no ground whatever for any such contention. His ambition and personal power had kept the nations in arms for years; he had already made his escape from Elba, and it was necessary to find some place of detention much more distant from the scenes of his former exploits, and not accessible to his friends. St. Helena answered these purposes admirably, and the most he could expect was decent quarters, and ordinary civility from his custodians. These he certainly received, and to accuse the British Government or Sir Hudson Lowe of cruelty and oppression is disingenuous and untrue. No doubt Napoleon was greatly to be pitied in his downfall, from one point of view; but his secure detention was obviously a necessity, and it was ensured by measures which were perfectly humane and reasonable.

Colonel Mansel was awarded the Companionship of the Bath—"C. B."—for his services.¹

Colonel Mansel, as major, went to India in 1807; and in the following year Lieutenant-General Hewitt, commander-in-chief, after inspecting the battalion, expresses his satisfaction with the 53rd and the movements of the Light Infantry, and "requests Lieutenant-Colonel Mawby, the officers, and troops under arms this morning will accept his best thanks. Major Mansel also has ample claim to them for his very earnest and successful endeavour in the promotion of the Light Infantry."

The first introduction of the Light Infantry companies into

¹ The Order of the Bath, established by George I. in 1725, was in 1815 instituted in three classes: G.C.B., K.C.B., and C.B.—"to commemorate the auspicious termination of the long and arduous contest in which the empire has been engaged."

the native regiments was due to Mansel's initiative at Cawnpore, where he volunteered to instruct the regiments ; the system became general throughout the company's troops after the commander-in-chief's inspection at Cawnpore.

Mansel, as has been recounted, went to Spain in 1811, and to St. Helena in 1816, returning thence in the following year

In 1823 he took command of the regiment—now reduced to one battalion—which was moved about to various places, and in 1826 to Ireland.

On June 6, 1827, it was inspected in marching order by Major-General Sir George Bingham—its former colonel—and on the 10th Lieutenant-Colonel Mansel went on leave, with the intention of retiring from the service, having on the previous day issued the following Regimental Order :

“ CORK, *June 9, 1827.*

“ Circumstances compelling Lieutenant-Colonel Mansel to tender his resignation, he cannot take leave of the regiment, in which he has served upwards of 32 years, without expressing his humble but unfeigned thanks to each rank for the willing co-operation they have afforded him upon all occasions ; and his immutable solicitude for the continued honour and welfare of the corps. The future prosperity and happiness of the 53rd Regiment, collectively and individually, will never cease to be an object of his most anxious interest ; and wherever it may be ordered in its routine of service Lieutenant-Colonel Mansel's most cordial wishes will ever accompany it.”

On July 3, in an order of the day issued by Major Cuppaidge, in temporary command, announcing the appointment of Mansel's successor, is the following :

“ The 53rd Regiment has thus lost the services of an officer who, for zeal for the service and for energy and gallantry in the field, has frequently obtained the approbation of his superiors ; and his manners as a gentleman and his deportment as an officer in carrying on the duties of the regiment have insured to him the esteem and regard of all ranks. The officer at present in temporary charge presumes, on his having served 24 years in the corps, which

Lieut.-Colonel Mansel, to record his best wishes, with those of his brother officers, for the Lieutenant-Colonel's future happiness."

When Sir Hudson Lowe brought an action for libel against Barry O'Meara, the author of a very violent and inaccurate titable against Lowe and others,¹ Sir George Bingham, Colonel John Mansel, and his brother, Robert Christopher Mansel, were among those who signed affidavits in defence of Sir Hudson.

Captain Robert Mansel was with the Provisional Battalion at Toulouse, and is subsequently alluded to—in respect of the above-mentioned affidavit—as "Major and Captain of the 66th." He is also mentioned as Captain of the 53rd, and D.A.Q.M.G. at St. Helena.

Colonel John Mansel's eldest son, John Clavell Mansel, born in 1817, was well known as a naturalist and geologist, etc.; he was elected president of the Dorset Natural History and Antiquarian Field Club, when that society was first formed, in 1875. Evidences of his varied knowledge may be found in "Notes and Queries for Somerset and Dorset"; he writes successively about ancient terrace cultivation, the origin and use of what are termed "pen-pits" in Somerset, of the *locus* of Sulphate of Baryta (Barytes), of the migration of birds; he also wrote on the Flora of Dorsetshire, and contributed the section on "Some remarkable particulars of Natural History" in the second edition of Hutchins' History of Dorset (1861); he undertook a series of dredgings on the coast, which added considerably to the knowledge of local marine shells, etc.; and he published a volume on "The Birds of Dorsetshire." He was a Justice of the Peace, a member of several learned societies, and of the County Council. He died May 3, 1902.

Mr. Mansel assumed, by Deed Poll dated July 4, 1871, the

¹ "Napoleon in Exile; or a Voice from St. Helena," by Barry E. O'Meara. O'Meara was surgeon on board the *Bellerophon* when Napoleon surrendered to Captain Maitland. Napoleon was attracted by O'Meara's command of Italian, and when his own surgeon refused to accompany him to St. Helena, he asked that O'Meara should take his place. It was not a happy selection; O'Meara quarrelled with Lowe to act as a spy and reporter, entirely upon the contrary of what Napoleon and his staff, even to the friends with the Governor, and became his violent and bitterest opponent. "A Voice from St. Helena" created a great sensation at the time—1824—but it is now generally regarded as an exaggerated and in many respects an untrue arraignment of Sir Hudson Lowe, the outcome of personal spite.



COLONEL JOHN MANSEL, C.B.,
of Smedmore, Dorset.
Born 17 August, 1770; died 20 January, 1803.



FIG. 1. Faint sketch of a face, possibly a profile or a frontal view, with some shading and lines indicating features like the nose and mouth.



FIG. 2. Large, rectangular sketch of a face, showing a frontal view with detailed shading and lines for the eyes, nose, mouth, and hair. The sketch is enclosed in a rectangular border.



FIG. 3. Faint sketch of a face, similar to the one in the top left, with some shading and lines indicating features like the nose and mouth.

additional name of Pleydell, in accordance with the wishes of his grandfather, Edmund Morton Pleydell, Esq., who entailed the Whatcombe estate upon him.

Colonel John Mansel's second son, George Pleydell Mansel,—twin brother of John Clavel Mansel—joined the 53rd Regiment in 1836, exchanged into the 60th Rifles in 1844, and after serving abroad in the Ionian Islands and Halifax, retired from the service in 1848. In 1860 he was instrumental in raising the Dorset Rifle Volunteer Corps, was gazetted lieutenant-colonel of the battalion, and after commanding it for sixteen years he retired and was appointed hon. colonel. He died at Smedmore in 1896.

Colonel Mansel adopted as the badge of the Dorset Volunteer Battalion the crest of the Dorset Mansels—a flaming cap of maintenance, said to have been assumed in honour of the exploits of the Mansel Crusaders. This badge is still worn by the 4th Battalion Dorset Regiment; the device is stamped on their note-paper.

Colonel George Pleydell Mansel's eldest son, John Delalynde Mansel, was born in 1850, and in 1869 joined the Rifle Brigade, with which he served in the Jovaki-Afrili expedition of 1877-78—medal with clasp; in the Afghan Campaign of 1878-80; was present at the capture of Ali Musjid, and with the expedition to Kunar Valley and Lughman Valley; mentioned in despatches. Served as A.D.C. to General Ross in the march from Cabul to the relief of Candahar and in the battle of September 1; mentioned in despatches, brevet of major, medal with two clasps, bronze star. Served in Burmah campaign in 1885, and retired in 1891. The South African War, however, saw Colonel Mansel again in the field; he served with the Imperial Yeomanry—a corps which included many veterans who had deemed their war-service over, but came forward at the call to arms—and was on the staff of the general commanding the 7th Division; mentioned in despatches. Promoted colonel in the Reserve of Officers—Queen's medal and five clasps.

Colonel Mansel's second son, Captain Eustace Gambier Mansel, was born in 1853, and joined the 52nd Light Infantry in 1873. He served in the Egyptian Expedition and the Soudan, 1882-84; at the battles of El Feb and Tamai—medal with clasp.

bronze star ; he retired in 1894. In 1900 he served as Adjutant to the Royal Irish Fusiliers Reserve, and with the Royal Home Counties Reserve Regiment until it was disbanded in 1901. He died December 31, 1915.

Major Ernest Digby Mansel, third son of Colonel George Pleydell Mansel, was born in 1855, and joined the 71st Highland Light Infantry in 1874; after serving abroad at Malta, at the occupation of Cyprus, and in India, he retired from the service in 1895. During the South African War he joined the Royal Scottish Reserve Regiment in 1900, and assisted in forming the 2nd Royal Garrison Regiment in 1901, in which regiment he served at Gibraltar and in South Africa until it was disbanded in 1905. He died in 1911.

Colonel George Clavel Mansel, D.S.O., fourth son of Colonel George Pleydell Mansel, was born in 1861. He joined the 68th Durham Light Infantry in 1880. In 1899, at the outbreak of the South African War, he embarked for the Cape and landed at Durban. He was present at the battles of Colenso and Vaal Kranz and the Relief of Ladysmith; mentioned in despatches and received the Queen's Medal with four clasps and the King's Medal with two clasps, as well as the Distinguished Service Order. In 1904 he commanded his battalion, and retired from the service in 1908. He died in 1910.

This is a fine family record. Colonel John Mansel's son and grandsons certainly maintained the high repute in which he was held in his time. Nor is the tale complete; the next generation has given of its best in the Great War of 1914 and following years.

The late Captain Eustace Gambier Mansel, mentioned above, composed the coat-of-arms, with fifty-two quarterings, here reproduced; it is inserted as it stands, entirely on the authority of Captain Mansel. The heraldry is as follows:

1. Argent, a chevron between three maunches sable; Mansel.
2. Gules, a saltire engrailed or; Long (or Longe).
3. Argent, three bars gules; Scurlage.
4. Sable, a carbuncle argent; Pennard.
5. Chequy or and gules, a fesse ermine; Turberville.
6. Argent, three mullets pierced sable; Stackpoole.¹

¹ This is not in Burke's "General Armory."



COLONEL JOHN DELAVANDE MANSEL

Born 3 October, 1870;
Died 11 December, 1915



MAJOR ERNEST DODD MANSEL

Born 10 October, 1888;
Died 8 May, 1911



GEORGE PERCIVAL MANSEL

Late Captain 6th Rifles
and Colonel Dorset Reg. Volunteers

Born 4 December, 1847;
Died 20 March, 1890



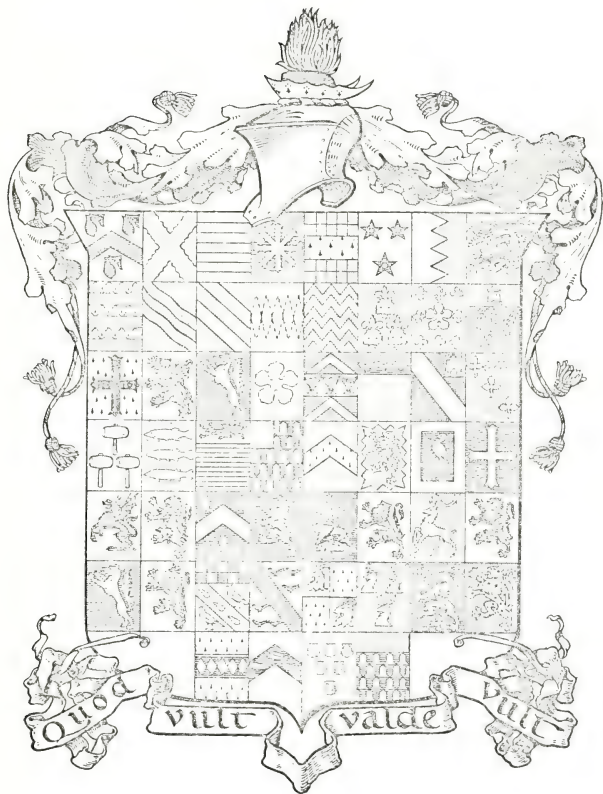
CAPTAIN FRANK GARDNER MANSEL

Born 11 October, 1881;
Died 12 October, 1915



LIEUTENANT COLONEL GEORGE CHARLES MANSEL

Born 6 February, 1881;
Died 12 July, 1915



SHIELD WITH FIFTY-TWO QUARTERINGS.

Compiled by Captain Eustace Gambier Mansel.

7. Per pale indented argent and gules ; Penrice.
8. Gules, two lions passant in pale argent ; Delamare.
9. Barry of six, vairé gules ermine and azure ; Braose.¹
10. Gules, two bends wavy or ; Briwere.
11. Gules, two bends, or and argent ; Fitzwalter (Earl of Hereford).
12. Gules, five fusils conjoined in fesse or ; De Novo Mercato (Bernard Newmarch).
13. Barry of six indented argent and gules ; Balun (Badalowlow).²
14. Gules, three leopards' faces inverted jessants-de-lis ; Cantelupe.
15. Gules, a cinquefoil between eight crosses crosslet in orle or ; Umfraville.³
16. Sable, three scaling ladders argent ; on a chief gules a castle triple-towered argent, in the honour point a spear's head argent, its point imbrued ; Cadifor ap Dynawall.
17. Ermine, a cross flory sable ; Kene or Kyne.
18. Argent, a lion rampant guardant sable, armed and langued gules ; Morgan of Muddlescombe.⁴
19. Azure, a wolf salient argent, armed and langued gules ; Dwnn of Muddlescombe.
20. Or, a cinquefoil gules ; Vernon of Muddlescombe.
21. Azure, on a fesse between two chevronels or three eagles displayed gules ; name not known.⁵
22. Or, on a chief sable, three martlets of the field ; Wogan.

¹ Not in Burke ; Papworth has the correct blason, as tricked on the shield—Barry of six, three azure, and three vairé gules and ermine ; Brewes (Braose).

² May be expressed : argent, three bars indented gules ; *barry of six* is not strictly in accordance with the "tricking." Burke has : *Balun* ; argent, three bars dancettée and a base indented gules.

³ Burke has : Gules, a cinquefoil or, within eight crosses pattée in orle of the last.

⁴ Burke has : Morgan (Langston, county Monmouth). Argent, a lion rampant guardant sable ; on a dexter canton or, a griffin segreant sable, on a sinister canton argent, three bulls' heads cabossed sable armed gold ; the two latter charges being the arms of Morgan of Tredunnuck, county Monmouth, and Morgan of Llangatock, county Monmouth, respectively.

⁵ This is labelled : "Name not known, arms brought in by Kene or Kyne, and should be next to No. 17." No such blason can be found in Burke attached to Kene or Kyne.

23. Sable, a bend argent ; in sinister chief a castle triple-towered of the second ; Plunket.
24. Gules, three trefoils bendwise argent, in sinister chief a lion passant guardant, or ; De Londres.
25. Argent, three mallets gules ; Malley.¹
26. Gules, three pikes naiant in pale argent ; Picton.
27. Barry of ten gules and argent ; on a chief or a lion passant sable ; Malefant.
28. Vairé argent and sable, a canton argent ; Staunton.²
29. Gules, a chevron ermine ; Gwys.
30. Gules, a lion rampant or, within a bordure indented of the second ; Rhys ap Tudor.
31. Sable, a stork proper within a bordure argent ; Mathew of Rhaiader.³
32. Sable, billettée argent, a cross flory of the second ; Norris of Penlyne.
33. Or, a griffin segreant sable ; Morgan of Tredegar.
34. Argent, a lion rampant gules, incensed azure ; Angharad ap Tredegar.⁴
35. Sable, a chevron between three spearheads argent ; Seys.⁵
36. Sable, a lion rampant argent ; Griffith ap Cydrych.
37. Sable, a boar argent, head gules, collared and chained or, browsing beneath a holly-tree proper ; Llwechllawen Vaur.⁶
38. Argent, a lion rampant guardant sable, armed and langued gules, in the dexter chief a crescent for difference ; Morgan of Iscoed.⁷

¹ Burke has, for *Mallet*, not *Malley* : Gules, three mallets argent.

² This is not in accordance with the tricked shield on the coat, where the canton is obviously *gules* ; Burke also has *gules* ; coat of Staunton of Leicester.

³ Burke has : A stork proper, legged and beaked gules, within a bordure argent ; Mathew of Tresunger and Pennytenny, county Cornwall.

⁴ Angharad was the heir of Morgan ap Meredith, Lord of Tredegar, and conveyed Tredegar to her husband, Llewellyn ap Ivor, ancestor of Morgan of Tredegar.

⁵ Burke has " their points imbrued."

⁶ Burke has : Sable on a mount in base proper under a holly-bush, vert a boar passant argent collared gules ; Vaur Ithawen-Ithwarch (Wales). In the tricked coat the boar is chained.

⁷ The crescent is not shown on the shield.

39. Gules, a buck trippant argent ; Rees David Hopkin.¹
40. Argent, a lion rampant sable, collared and chained or ; Philipps of Cold-gainge.
41. Azure, a wolf salient argent ; Dwnn of Picton Castle.
42. Argent, a lion rampant sable, crowned or ; Llewellyn ap Ririd ap Rees Greg.
43. Argent, a bend gules guttée of the first, between two plovers of the second, a chief chequy or and sable ; Pleydell.²
44. Or, a bend between six martlets sable ; Luttrell of Ven.
45. Quarterly gules and ermine ; in the first and fourth quarters a goat's head erased argent attired or ; Morton.
46. Gules, three bucks' heads coupéd argent ; Delalynde.
47. Sable, a lion rampant between three crosses crosslet or ; Reson.
48. Gules, a lion rampant argent, semé of estoiles sable ; Stockes.
49. Ermine, on a fesse sable cotised gules, five lozenges or ; Richards.
50. Argent, on a chevron sable three chapeaux or ; Clavell.³
51. Gules, six escallops, three, two, and one ; Wyott.
52. Vairé, a chief gules ; Estoke.

Captain Mansel evidently took much trouble over this shield ; it certainly makes a handsome show, and merits a place in this volume ; but, as has already been intimated, no responsibility can be accepted for the various details, or for the introduction of sundry names which, as far as can be ascertained, do not appear as connected with the Mansels in any known pedigree ; it would have been interesting if Captain Mansel had attached an explanatory note, giving the ground of the inclusion of the various families, but apparently he did not do so.

The connection is, in many instances, obvious enough ; but

¹ Burke has *Papkin*.

² Burke has two *choughs* instead of plovers.

³ Burke has : Three caps of maintenance argent : Hatchins in the History of Dorset, has three chapeaux or, and quarter the arms of Estoke, as before (Vol. i., p. 571). Papworth has : Argent, on a chevron sable three steel caps of the first.

Stackpoole, Vernon of Muddlescombe, Plunket, Malley (or Mall), Staunton, Gwys, Seys, and one or two others are unaccountable. The Wogan coat is that of Wogan of Rathcoffey, county Kildare, granted in 1616, recorded by Burke on the authority of a funeral entry in the office of the Ulster king-at-arms; there is no connection apparent with the Welsh Wogans, with whom the Mansels intermarried. The inclusion of Reson and Stockes is unaccountable.

The Pleydells acquired their Dorset estates through the marriage, in the latter half of the seventeenth century, of Edmund Pleydell, of Midgehall, Wilts, M.P. for Wotton Bassett, with Anne, daughter and sole heiress of Sir John Morton, of Milborne St. Andrew, Dorset. The Mortons came of an ancient family, originally of Nottinghamshire; Cardinal John Morton, a man of some note, and of immense influence in the reign of King Henry VII., was one of this family; he died in 1500.

The pedigree of the Mansels of Dorset is as follows:

Lieut.-Col. John Mansel, C.B., b. August 16, 1776; m. in 1815 Louisa, daughter and heir of Edmund Morton Pleydell; she died May 6, 1863; he died January 29, 1863, leaving issue—

I. JOHN CLAVELL MANSEL-PLEYDELL, b. December 4, 1817; assumed the additional surname of Pleydell in 1871; m. firstly in 1844, Emily, dau. of Capt. A. Bingham; she died *s.p.* 1845; and secondly, June 21, 1849, Isabel, dau. of Capt. F. C. Acton Colville, Scots Guards; she d. July 13, 1912; he d. May 3, 1902, having had issue—

A. EDMUND MORTON, b. June 30, 1850; m. June 6, 1885, Emily Kathleen, dau. of Sir Thomas Fraser Grove, 1st Bart. of Ferne, Wilts; d. Oct. 13, 1914, leaving issue—

(a) EDMUND MORTON, Lieut. 3rd Batt. Dorset Regt., b. Dec. 23, 1886; killed in action March 15, 1915.

(b) HARRY GROVE MORTON, Lieut. 3rd Batt. Dorset Regt.; b. 1895, killed in action May 17, 1919.

(c) VIVIEN.

(d) DAPHNE.



EVAN MORTON MANSEL-PLEYDELL, R.H.A.,
TWIN SON OF CANON MANSEL-PLEYDELL.



WHATCOMBE HOUSE.



OLD DORMITORY. BACK VIEW.

B. JOHN COLVILLE MORTON (Rev.), M.A., Trin. Coll., Camb., Prebendary of Salisbury; b. Oct. 21, 1851; m. Oct. 23, 1879. Beatrice Maud, eldest dau. of Robert Smith of Goldings, Co. Herts, and had issue—

(a) JOHN MORTON, B.A., Trin. Coll., Camb., Lieut. R.F.A.; b. March 16, 1884; killed in action, 1916.

(b) EVAN MORTON, Lieut. R.H.A. (twin with John), d. unkn. May 22, 1910.

(c) HARRY PERCY MORTON, Capt. R.F.A., b. May 12, 1891.

(d) RALPH MORTON, Lieut. R.F.A., b. May 17, 1895.

(e) DOROTHY ISABEL MORTON, b. Sept. 2, 1881; m. April 27, 1910, Major Edward Pelham Smith.

(f) CICELY MORTON, b. Dec. 12, 1882; m. Jan. 16, 1906, Major Neville Hugh Cairns Sherbrooke, R.H.A.

C. HENRY BINGHAM MORTON, Capt. 1st Batt. Royal Fusiliers; b. Dec. 6, 1852; d. unkn. Feb. 21, 1886.

II. GEORGE PLEYDELL MANSEL of Smedmore, b. Dec. 4, 1817, Capt. 60th Rifles, Hon. Col. Dorset Rifle Vols.; m. March 7, 1848, Jemima Henrietta, dau. of William Gambier; d. March 26, 1896, having had issue—

A. JOHN DELALYNDE, Colonel Rifle Brigade, etc., b. Oct. 3, 1850, m. April 24, 1888, Mildred Ella, dau. of Arthur Edward Guest; d. Dec. 11, 1915, leaving issue—

(a) RHYS CLAVELL, Capt. Rifle Brigade, b. Feb. 3, 1891; m. Jan. 12, 1916, Sylvia Nina, only dau. of Lieut.-Col. Sir Guy Theophilus Campbell, 3rd Bart.

(b) MARCIA EUGENIA, b. March 12, 1890; m. Dec. 14, 1910, Captain Oswald Bethell Walker, 15th Hussars.

(c) JULIET ELLA MENDEL, b. March 9, 1893.

- B. EUSTACE GAMBIER, late Capt. Ox. Light Infantry ;
b. Oct. 31, 1853 ; m. May 19, 1883, Mary Eleanor,
dau. of the late Capt. Belgrave, R.N. ; d. Dec. 31,
1915, leaving issue—
(a) EUSTACE PHILIP BELGRAVE, b. July 20, 1884.
(b) LILY DOROTHY.
- C. ERNEST DIGBY, late Major Highland Lt. Inf. ;
b. Oct. 10, 1855 ; m. Nov. 1, 1882, Henrietta Cecilia,
dau. of Sir John Don Wauchope, 8th. Bart. ; *d.s.p.*
May 8, 1911.
- D. GEORGE CLAVELL, D.S.O., late Lieut.-Col. Durham
Lt. Inf. ; b. Feb. 9, 1861 ; d. unm. July 12, 1910.
- E. ELIZABETH HENRIETTA.
- F. LOUISA MARY.
- III. MORTON GROVE MANSEL, of Puncknoll, Dorset, Lieut.
10th Foot, b. July 9, 1823 ; m. May 30, 1848, Elizabetha
Arundell, dau. and co-heir of Rev. Geo. Clutterbuck
Frome, of Puncknoll (she d. in 1893) ; d. Feb. 26, 1859,
having had issue—
- A. GEORGE MORTON, of Puncknoll, late Lieut. R.N. ; b.
April 11, 1849 ; d. unm. July 4, 1907.
- B. WALTER LUTTRELL, of Puncknoll Manor, Dorset, late
Lieut.-Col. South Lancs. Regt. ; b. June 19, 1851,
m. in 1886 Helen, dau. of George Ogilvy, of Cove,
Dumfries, and widow of Major Charles Stepney
Mansergh, of Clifford, co. Cork ; d. Feb. 20, 1913.
- C. CHARLES PLEYDELL, b. 1853 ; d. 1854.
- D. EMMA LOUISA ARUNDELL ; m. May 12, 1897, Col.
Henry Arch. Mallock, late Indian Army, of Friar
Mayne House, Dorset.
- IV. OWEN LUTTRELL MANSEL (Rev.), M.A., Trin. Col.,
Camb., late rector of Church Knowle, Dorset ; b. Jan. 24,
1827 ; m. July 19, 1859, Louisa Catherine, youngest dau.
and co-heir of Lord William Montague, second son of
William, 5th Duke of Manchester. She d. Oct. 30, 1901 ;
he d. July 12, 1900, leaving issue—



LIEUTENANT MORTON GROVE MANSEL
of Punchnod.
Born 6 July 1823; died 20 February 1856.



REV. OWEN LUTTRELL MANSEL, M.A.

Born 24 January, 1827; died 12 July, 1906.

- A. FRANCIS MONTAGU, b. Nov. 30, 1861, d. 1891.
- B. OWEN LLEWELLYN, b. July 25, 1864.
- C. EDWARD LUTTRELL, 1st Batt. E. Surrey Regt.; b. May 14, 1866; d. unm.
- D. WILLIAM DU PRE, Asst. Com. Basutoland, Capt. Lancashire Fusiliers; b. Sept. 12, 1869; killed in action, 1916.
- E. CHARLES PLEYDELL, Lieut.-Com. R.N.; b. Feb. 7, 1873; d. at sea, March 26, 1915.
- F. JAMES MORTON, b. Feb. 8, 1876.
- G. KATHARINE LOUISA.
- H. EMILY MAGDALENE.
- I. WINIFRED EMMA.
- J. THERESA MARY, m. April 17, 1894, Algar Labouchere Thorold.
- K. GWENDOLINE HENRIETTA.
- V. ARTHUR EDMUND, of Grove House, Dorchester, J.P., late Capt. 3rd Hussars; b. April 10, 1828; m. Dec. 6, 1860, Clare Henrietta, eldest dau. of the Hon. A. Lascelles, son of Henry, 2nd Earl of Harewood; d. July 20, 1905, leaving issue—
 - A. ALGERNON LASCELLES, b. Sept. 6, 1868; m. June 12, 1906, Isita Hodger, eldest dau. of Wm. Wilson, and has issue—
 - (a) JOHN WILLIAM MORTON, b. Aug. 2, 1909.
 - (b) EDMUND CLAVELL, b. Jan. 14, 1915.
 - (c) ISITA CLARE, b. April 8, 1907.
 - B. HUGH ARTHUR, late Capt. Dorset Regt., b. Nov. 7, 1869.
 - C. EVELYN LOUISA.
 - D. MARGARET BLANCHE.
 - E. SUSAN EMMA.
 - F. CLARE FRANCES, m. April 16, 1905, Capt. Francis des Saumarez Shortt, late Royal Scots Fus.
 - G. ELEANOR MAUD, m. 1909 R. Lionel Foster, 2nd son of John Foster, D.L., of Combe Park, Whitchurch.
 - H. RHODA CAROLINE, d. unm. Feb., 1902.

VI. LOUISA MARY, d. Aug., 1829.

VII. ELIZA SOPHIA, d. 1834.

VIII. EMMA GEORGINA, m. April 14, 1852, Charles Richard Hoare, Barrister. He d. Jan., 1871; she died *s.p.*, April 9, 1905.

Allusion has already been made to Maunsell pedigrees which appear in some of the Harley MSS.,¹ dealing with the Somerset branch of the family.

The annexed pedigree is transcribed from one of these, omitting the descent previous to Richard Mauncell of Mauncell, which affects to trace the steps from Philip of Conquest times, but is quite unreliable, and in some instances obviously erroneous.²

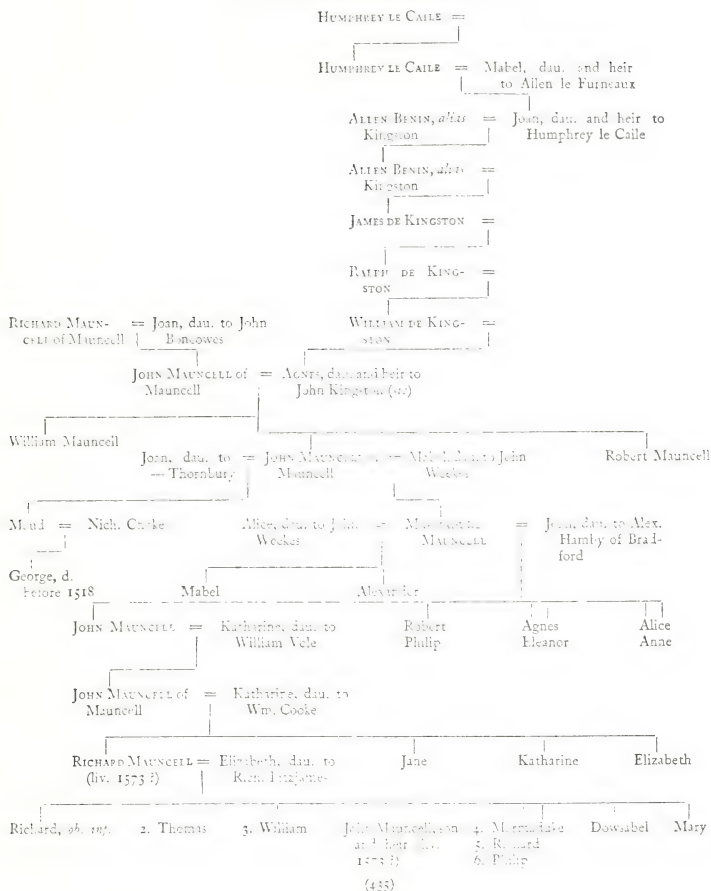
The pedigree, as is usual in the case of Visitation records, is entirely devoid of dates, nor can any be supplied, save by very vague inference from the year of the Visitation, 1573, when, it must be presumed, Richard Mauncell and John, his son and heir, were living, the former no doubt supplying the descent to the visiting herald.

Collinson gives some details which amplify this pedigree. Sir Richard Choke, Margaret his wife, and William Choke, clerk, held the manors of Long Ashton and Ashton Meriet in 1478; subsequently they were leased to Nicholas Choke, Maud his wife, George their son, and John Chapman, clerk. Maud and John Chapman survived the other lessees, and in 1518 the remainder of the term of the lease was assigned to Marmaduke Mauncel, brother of the said Maud, in trust for her use for life, and after her decease for the use of her nephew Alexander Mauncel during the remainder of the said term. From this it appears that Maud, daughter of John Mauncel, married Nicholas Choke, and had a son George, who died before 1518; and that her half-brother, Marmaduke Mauncel, had a son Alexander, in

¹ See vol. i., pp. 40-42.

² Harley MS., No. 1385; Visitations of Somerset, 1573. Similar pedigrees are given in Harley MS., 1559 (Somerset Visitations, 1573, 1591, 1623); 1445 (*ibid.*, 1505, 1623); 5871 (Devon, Dorset, and Somerset Visitations, 1505, etc.). Ages, daughter and heir of John Kingston, in this pedigree is obviously a slip of the pen; it should be *William*; it is so given in the others. In MS. No. 1559 she is named as *co-heir*.

SOMERSET MAUNSELLS



addition to those named in the pedigree—or perhaps one of them is wrongly named.¹

Some further light is also afforded by the will of Katherine Dillington, widow, proved May 5, 1573, from which it is apparent that she was Katherine Vole, who married John Maunsell, and surviving him, took as her second husband one Dillington. She makes bequests "To my god-daughter Katherine Maunsell, daughter of my son John Maunsell, twenty pounds on her marriage, and to Richard and Elizabeth his son and daughter six pounds thirteen shillings and fourpence each"; residue to "the said John Maunsell."²

This, as will be seen, fits in with the pedigree; but one point is noticeable—the will was proved in the same year as the Visitation upon which the pedigree is based, and yet John Maunsell, father of Richard, was evidently living. It would appear that the latter should have been styled "son and heir," instead of John the younger. Working back six generations from this year to Richard Maunsell of Maunsell, it is not unreasonable to assume that this Richard flourished in the latter half of the fourteenth century.

Gabriel Ogilvy, it will be recollected, places the first Somerset Mansel in the time of Henry II., or Richard I.;³ or rather Collinson the historian of Somerset, quoted by Ogilvy, so places him. This leaves a considerable space of time to be accounted for, if it is to be assumed that Richard Mauncell of Mauncell, living probably *temp.* Richard II., is of this stock. Ogilvy gives no indication of this, and yet, since the estate apparently came into the possession of Philip Arbalistarius, whose son, on succeeding, assumed the name of Mansel, or Maunsell, it would appear only natural that Richard Mauncell of Mauncell should be directly descended from Philip Arbalistarius. The Harley MS. pedigree affords no assistance whatever in the matter; it runs back vaguely through eleven generations from Richard of Mauncell to the first Philip, 1066, in contrast with some of the other genealogies, which allow, in some instances, only *two*

¹ "History of the County of Somerset." Vol. ii., pp. 297, 298.

² "Abstract of Somersetshire Wills," by F. Brown. Series V., p. 31.

³ *Ibid.* Vol. i., p. 63; and Appendix I.

generations to nearly two hundred years. This one errs as roundly in the other direction.

Collinson says: "In this family (the Mansels or Maunsells) the manor and ancient mansion continued till the time of Charles I., when it was purchased of their heirs by the family of Bacon, who resided here in the commencement of the present century. 10 Henry IV. (1409) Robert le Mansel bore on his seal a hand clenched; but William, son of the said Robert, took the present arms, *viz.*—sable, three jambs argent."¹

Collinson was writing in 1791, or thereabouts; so, according to him, this William, son of Robert, adopted this coat in the first half of the fifteenth century, and it had been continuously retained by the family to the end of the eighteenth century.

In Harley MS. 1445—Visitation of Somerset in 1623—there is a coat-of-arms of Maunsell appended to the very vague and unauthenticated pedigree, which is in some sense a travesty of that attributed to the family by Collinson, *viz.*, Gules, a fesse argent, in chief a chevronel of the second; three jambe (or gambes) argent, two in chief. The jambe or gambe in heraldry is the foreleg of a beast, preferably that of a lion; in the coat which is tricked on the Harley MS., however, the three jambe appear as *human* legs—very human, and of a distinctly feminine type. Now, the human leg is not unknown as a "charge" in heraldry;² but it is never labelled *jambe*; in English heraldry it is simply "leg"; in all heraldic dictionaries and glossaries jambe or gambe is described as a beast's leg. So here is something of a mystery; moreover, Collinson gives the tincture of the field as sable, whereas on the Harley MS. it is certainly gules. It would appear that the coat is either wrongly drawn, or wrongly blasoned; in either case, it is an extraordinary oversight. On the other hand, Collinson must have had some ground for his statement that the Maunsells of Somerset bore the coat—

¹ "History and Antiquities of the County of Somerset," by John Collinson. Vol. iii. p. 72.

² In a coloured plate from a Roll of Arms painted in England in the first half of the fourteenth century there appears a coat: argent, three legs gules; a name is appended above and below, presumably of the bearers of the coat, but it is not very intelligible, and no corroboration can be found in Burke. (See "Encyclopædia Britannica," under Heraldry.)

sable, three jambes argent—in his time ; it will be noticed that the fesse and chevronel are absent from this coat.

In Harley MS. 1385 (Visitation of 1573) the coat given is—Gules, a fesse argent, in chief a chevronel of the second, in base a maunche argent ; but the maunche is a sort of modernised edition of the old heraldic sleeve.

In Harley MS. No. 1559 (Visitations of 1573, 1591, 1623) the coat is identical with that in No. 1445, but with three modernised maunches in place of legs.

The discrepancy does not appear to be susceptible of solution, and so must be accepted as it stands, leaving the arms of Maunsell of Somerset more or less of a mystery.

In the rude pedigree, with its multiplicity of generations, on Harley MS. No. 1385, William is placed as father, and Robert as grandfather to Richard Mauncell of Mauncell, who married Joan, daughter of John Boncoves. This appears to corroborate Collinson in his statement that Robert le Mansel was living in 1409, but it places Richard a little later than has been assumed above. Chronology by generations must always be permitted considerable latitude, though it is too frequently the only refuge of the genealogist in dealing with Visitation pedigrees.

The Bacons, who bought the Mansel estate in the time of Charles I., do not appear to have been connected with the Bacons of Suffolk, who intermarried with the Mansels. There is a monument in the church at Langford Budville, Somerset, to one William Bacon who died June 12, 1663, and so was probably the purchaser of the Mansel estate. His coat-of-arms was : Argent, a fesse between three round buckles, gules, which is quite distinct from that of the Suffolk family. In Burke it is attributed to Bacon of Twyhouse, county Somerset. Collinson also records that "some of the family of Bacon, of Mansel-house," are buried in the parish church of St. Michael's, or Michaelchurch.¹

The Somerset Record Society's publications afford little or no assistance towards tracing the continuity of the Maunsells of Somer-

¹ "History and Antiquities of the County of Somerset." Volume, pp. 20, 100.

set ; there are, however, one or two points of some interest to be noted.

In the will of Richard Gorney, of Cory Malett, Somerset, dated February 25, 1520, there is mention of Marmaduke Mauncell, Esq., with others, as seised of the testator's lands in the county.

In the will of Alexander Popham, Esq., of Huntworth, dated June 1, 1556, and proved July 2 in the same year, is the following clause : " My executors to sell the wardship and marriage of John Mauncell, cousin and heir of Marmaduke Mauncell, deceased, which held of me by knight's service." ¹

Huntworth is in North Petherton Hundred ; so here we have one John Mauncell, a minor, of this neighbourhood, presumably, in the year 1556 ; and Marmaduke Mauncell, who must have died without issue before this year.

There are two Marmadukes in the pedigree ; one is great-grandfather to Richard, who was living in 1573 ; the other is fourth son of the said Richard. The elder Marmaduke is ruled out—if the pedigree is to be accepted as accurate—by the fact that his son John was evidently his heir ; nor is it probable that this Marmaduke was living in 1520. On the other hand, the younger Marmaduke, fourth son of Richard, could scarcely have been born as early as 1520, seeing that his father was most probably living in 1573.

The wills thus challenge the pedigree, and must, of course, be preferred as evidence ; but where the declared genealogy has erred it is impossible to say, as it is absolutely destitute of landmarks. It is extraordinary that these gentlemen, who so glibly recorded their ancestry through many generations, appear to have been unable or unwilling to furnish the heralds with a single chronological detail ; and it is even more remarkable that such detail, even if it were only "*temp.*" such-and-such a king, was not insisted upon by the heralds.

However, we have to take them as we find them. Possibly Marmaduke the elder was not father, but cousin to John who succeeds him in the pedigree ; this John, who was a minor in 1556,

¹ Somerset Medieval Wills. Series II., p. 208, Series III., p. 181.

could not, however, have been grandfather to Richard, who was living in 1573. Whichever way the matter is regarded, some fresh discrepancy crops up.

It is interesting that Alexander Popham of Huntworth married Joan, or Jane, daughter of that Sir Edward Stradling who was knighted at Tournai by King Henry VIII., in 1513,¹ and was thus remotely related to the Welsh Mansels. A subsequent Sir Edward, it will be recollected, married Mary, only daughter of Sir Thomas, first Baronet of Margam.²

There is mention in Domesday of one William Moncellis, who was a tenant of the Bishop of Coutances, in Keynsham Hundred, Somerset, in 1084 and later. It is stated in Mr. R. G. Maunsell's family history that Richard, a grandson of Hugh, second son of Jenkyn Mansel, was of Keynsham, and was one of the yeomen of the guard to Queen Elizabeth. Mr. Maunsell, as usual, gives no authority for this statement; there is no mention in Collinson's "Somerset" of any Richard Mansel in connection with Keynsham; and of course William Moncellis may not have had any relationship with the Maunsells; the name is sometimes spelled *Monceaux* in these early records. There is no such name in the Battle Abbey Roll, though, as has been stated elsewhere, there is more than one *Mansel*. Keynsham is about five miles south-west of Bristol.³

The Somersetshire Pleas make mention of some Maunsells in the thirteenth century; one Roger of North Petherton was in default for not appearing to plead at the Assize; and Isolt, wife of Robert de Blokksworth, had a plea against William Maunsell; the date is vague—"temp. Henry III."⁴

This plea was in respect of a messuage in Were—which is identical, according to Collinson, with Over-Weare—and in the

¹ See *ante*, p. 49. "The Visitation of Somersetshire," 1623; Har. Soc. publication, vol. xi., p. 125. "Limbus Patrum Morganici," by G. T. Clark, p. 455. Alexander Popham was father of Sir John Popham, lord chief justice, to whom reference has been made in connection with the sanguinary duel between Sir Robert Mansel and Sir John Heydon (see vol. i., p. 376).

² See *ante*, p. 50.

³ "Domesday Studies" (Somerset), by R. W. Estlin. Vol. I., p. 119. "History of Maunsell," by R. G. Maunsell, p. 11.

⁴ "The Pleas of the Crown in Somersetshire," p. 11.

Somerset Fines there is further mention of William Mansel—so spelled—and Margery his wife in connection therewith. The querent, or plaintiff, was Michael, Abbot of Glastonbury, and William and Margery were the impedients, or obstructors. Apparently the abbot had a good case, for William and Margery “acknowledged the right of the abbot as being their gift, to hold of them and the heirs of Margery, doing to the chief lord of the fee the service thereto belonging. And William and Margery warranted against all men. For this the abbot gave William and Margery half a mark” (*i.e.*, six and eightpence; suggestive of a lawyer’s fee of later times).¹

This was in the year 1249, so it may be assumed that this William was identical with the one who was sued by Isolt.

At Westminster, on November 3, 1287, there was a suit between Geoffrey Maunsel, querent, and Roger Maunsel, deforciant, or trespasser, concerning a moiety of one virgate of land in Rydon, and it was agreed that after the death of Roger the land should wholly revert to Geoffrey.²

Another plea runs as follows: “At Westminster in the quinzaine (*i.e.*, within fifteen days) of Easter, 13 Edward I. (1284), between Gilbert de Wollavinton, querent, and Milesenta Everard, impedient, for a messuage and a carucate of land in Honespulle, Northeston, Hiwysh, Stawell, and Lillingston; Milesenta acknowledged the right of Gilbert as by her gift; for this Gilbert granted the same to Milesenta and John her son and Juliana, daughter of Philip Maunsel, to hold to Milesenta, John, and Juliana, and the heirs of the body of John. . . . If it happen that John die without heirs of his body, the said tenement shall wholly remain to Milesenta and Juliana for their lives, and after their decease the same shall wholly revert to the right heirs of Milesenta.”³

The Everards were land-holders in Somerset in the time of Edward I.; one John Everard, of Huntspill (identical with

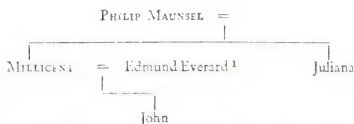
¹ “Somerset Fines,” p. 136 (No. 32). The lord of the fee at this time was Robert de Gournay, descended from the Barons of Gloucester.

² *Ibid.*, p. 208 (No. 96). Rydon is not mentioned by Collinson.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 203 (No. 82).

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Honespulle, mentioned above) was witness to a deed in 1352. The inference from this plea is that Milesenta (or Millicent) was a daughter of Philip Maunsel, and married an Everard—probably Edmund, who is included in the list of holders of land *temp.* Edward I.—



Here is evidence of a Somerset Maunsel named Philip at this period; but concerning the relationship between him and William and Margery, Geoffrey and Roger, there does not appear to be any evidence forthcoming.

In July, 1327, there was an adjustment of contested patronage in respect of the Chantry of Wollavington. Roger de Micheldever had presented in right of his wife, Agnes, daughter of Gilbert de Lavington (or Wollavington), the founder of the chantry. Philip Mansel had presented as one of Gilbert's heirs. These rival patrons, in the presence of Bishop John de Droghensford, consented to present alternately. This may be the same Philip as in the plea cited above, or possibly his son.¹

A pedigree of Hodges of Lofton (more properly Lufton), in Somerset, shows the marriage of Jane, daughter of John Hodges, with Henry Mansel of Llandewy²—grandson of Philip, third son of Jenkyn Mansel, and brother to Sir Rhys. John Hodges was one of the numerous aspirants for the proposed order of the "Royal Oak"; his income was estimated at £700 per annum. Collinson makes no mention of Hodges of Lufton (which he erroneously names *Luston*).

It is to be regretted that there is no precise evidence to be found in support of Collinson's statement that "Mansel, now (1791) the seat of John Slade, Esq., was the hereditary possession of a

¹ By Inquisition Post Mortem held in March, 1278, on William Everard, his son Edmund was then twenty-seven and a half years of age.

² "Somerset Record Society." Vol. i, p. 271.

³ Harley MSS., 1445; fol. 116.

family of the same name for twenty generations"; meaning, obviously, the family of Mansel.

Mansel is included among seventeen "places, tithings, and hamlets" in the parish of North Petherton, in 1791; and Collinson further states that the manor of North Petherton "had after the Conquest for its possessors the ancient family of de Erlega, or Erleigh, so denominated from the lordship of Erleigh near Reading in the county of Berks."

According to a MS. in the British Museum (already alluded to in the first volume),¹ Sir Henry Early, or Erleigh, gave Philip Maunsel a mansion or manor, in the parish of Pyderton, which no doubt is identical with Petherton; this must have been in the eleventh century, not long after the Conquest, as this same Philip is said to have come into England with William the Conqueror; but it was not until one hundred years later, in the reign of Henry II., that William de Erleigh granted the estate of Mansel to Philip Arbalistarius, whose son Philip assumed the name of Maunsell, or Mansel. Gabriel Ogilvy, in his so-called pedigree, quite unjustifiably, and in contravention of Collinson's statement, which he quotes, assumes that this gift was made to Philip *Mansel*.²

It would appear, therefore, that the de Erleighs gave lands in North Petherton, in the first instance, to one Philip Mansel or Maunsell, soon after the Conquest, and about one hundred years later to another Philip, whose son assumed the name of Maunsell. Collinson gives as reference "*Cartae Antiquæ*," but it has not been found possible to verify this.

There are, however, some references to be found among ancient deeds which tend to demonstrate the continuous connection of Maunsells with this locality; or at least with the county of Somerset.

On June 6, 35 Henry VI. (1457), a deed was executed by John Mauncell the elder, by which he enfeoffed Robert Norrisse, and Robert Mauncell, his son, and the heirs of his said son of all his

¹ Addit. MSS., No. 12477: see vol. i., p. 45.

² See vol. i., Appendix I.

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lands, etc., in Sterkycloud, Bremylham, Votelond, Callis, Gobelin Newhouse, Ernysham, in the parish of North Petherton, and a burgage in the high street of Taunton, with two stalls there next to Cornhyll." The deed is dated at Mauncell.¹

This John Mauncell the elder fits in fairly well with John of Mauncell who married, according to the pedigree, Agnes, daughter and heir of William Kingston; he had a son John, who apparently was his heir, and one Robert, probably the third.

On August 16 11 Henry VIII. (1520), John Mone infeoffed John Sydenham the elder, son of Alexander Sydenham, of all his lands in the parish of North Petherton; attorneys to deliver seisin, John Popham and Marmaduke Mauncell. In another deed, dated January 18, 1511, Marmaduke appears as a witness.²

Other evidences are also available of the existence of Maunsell in this county.

Humphrey Mansel was witness to a deed of grant by the Prior of the Convent of St. Peter, in Bath, early in the thirteenth century.³

On December 12, 1276, there was an assignment of dower to Roesia, late the wife of Philip de Herleye (or Erleigh), by certain persons, among whom is included Phillip Maunsell; and among other lands and services named are those of Roger Maunsell and Walter Maunsell.⁴

These are doubtless the Erleighs and Maunsells of North Petherton. In 1278 there is a charter of Walter Maunsell and Alice his wife, of North Petherton, concerning certain rights which he concedes to the Abbey of Athelney.⁵

Thomas Maunsell was one of the jurors on an inquisition post mortem held at Taunton on July 2, 1343.⁶

Nicholas Maunsell, priest, was instituted to the church of Stawleigh (or Stawley) in July, 1350.⁷

¹ Catalogue of Ancient Deeds (P.R.O.) Vol. iii., A. 5650 (p. 450).

² *Ibid.*, vol. vi., A. 12534 (p. 334); A. 12554 (p. 338).

³ Somerset Record Society. Vol. vii.

⁴ Cal. Close Rolls, 1272-1279.

⁵ Somerset Record Society.

⁶ Somersetshire Arch. and Nat. Hist. Soc., 1859.

⁷ "Somersetshire Incumbents," by F. W. Weaver; p. 349.

Robert Maunsell was one of the witnesses to a grant by Robert de Weston, chaplain, of North Petherton, in 1356.¹

Richard Maunsell and Joan his wife are mentioned in a plea at Westminster in 1423, concerning lands in Somerset and Dorset. This, no doubt, is Richard Mauncell of Mauncell, who married Joan Boncoves, as appears in the pedigree.²

John Maunsell was one of the jurors on an inquisition held at Taunton, November 3, 1431, concerning the Hundred of North Petherton, etc.³

John Maunsell of North Petherton, or of that neighbourhood, is mentioned in various deeds and pleas in 1424, 1445, 1455, 1458, and 1465. This no doubt is John, son of Richard Mauncell of Mauncell.

Another John, who, with Margaret (or Margery) his wife, was party in a suit at Westminster in 1469, concerning lands near Dulverton, Somerset, is not so readily placed. It appears from the pleadings that Margaret was first married to Nicholas Boys, and the inference from further evidence is that her maiden name was Engelby. No such John appears in the pedigree.⁴

William Maunsell, witness to a will in 1503, may be son of John Mauncell of Mauncell, as in the pedigree: the date is somewhat late, however.

The will of John Mansell, of Crowcombe, Somerset, is dated September 30, 1535. He directs that he shall be buried in Crowcombe church, and makes his wife Edithe residuary legatee, and his son William "supervisor."⁵

John Mansell's name appears in the Certificate of Musters for the Hundred of North Petherton, in the year 1569; he is credited with the possession of "one corslet."⁶

At the surrender of the Priory of Buckland, Somerset, to the

¹ "Somerset Record Society." Vol. xiv., p. 161.

² Feet of Fines, Henry IV., vol. xxii.

³ "Inq. and Assessments relating to Feudal Aids." Vol. iv., p. 433.

⁴ Feet of Fines, Hen. IV. to Hen. VI. Vol. xxii., p. 138.

⁵ "Wells Wills," by F. W. Weaver; p. 67.

⁶ "Somerset Record Society." Vol. i., p. 128.

King's Commissioners, in 1539. Anne Maunsell was one of the nuns; she was awarded a pension of £4 per annum.¹

Among the "Popish Recusants" in North Petherton, between 1592 and 1606, appear the names of Richard Maunsell and Elizabeth his wife; also of Katherine and Matilda Maunsell, and Richard Maunsell. In the parish of Trent, Somerset, Mary Maunsell's name is recorded as a recusant.² This must be Richard (living 1573) in the pedigree, his wife, Elizabeth Fitzjames, and his sister Katherine. Mary, of Trent, is probably his daughter; or she may possibly have been one of the Maunsells of Sherborne, Dorset, which is close to the border: Trent is only a few miles from Sherborne. Matilda cannot be placed.

From a pedigree of Jessop, of East Chickerel, county Dorset, given by Hutchins, it appears that Elizabeth, daughter of John Jessop, married John Maunsell of Maunsell, county Somerset, about the end of the sixteenth century.³

In the Visitation of Gloucestershire, 1623, there is a pedigree of Kemys of Bedminster, wherein is recorded the marriage of Thomas Kemys with Jean, daughter of Marmaduke Maunsell.⁴ This must have been during the reign of Henry VIII.; Thomas Kemys' first cousin, John, died 1541—the only date given in the pedigree. It is noticeable that, in 1651, administration of the estate of "Dame Blanche Kemeys, alias Mansell, of Llandern, Glamorgan," was granted to her husband, Sir Charles Kemeys, Knight and Baronet.⁵ This was, however, a different branch; Dame Blanche was daughter of Sir Lewis Mansel, Bart., of Margam, by his second wife; Sir Charles Kemeys was of Cefn Mabley, county Glamorgan. This administration is certainly quite out of place among Somersetshire wills. The arms of the Gloucestershire and Welsh branches are the same—vert, on a chevron argent three pheons sable—though the surname is spelled differently.

¹ Letters and Papers of the Reign of Henry VIII. Vol. xiv., pt. i., p. 166.

² "Somersetshire Parishes," by A. L. Humphreys. Vol. ii., pp. 539, 763.

³ "History of Dorset." Vol. ii., p. 494.

⁴ "Visitation of Gloucester"; Hist. Soc. Pub. Vol. xxii., p. 98.

⁵ "Abstract of Somersetshire Wills," by F. Brown. Series II., p. 109.

In the will of Susanna Tynte, widow, of Pitminster, county Somerset, dated August 6, 1757, proved July 13, 1758, there is mention of "my nephew, Mansel Langdon." This was the son of Joan, daughter of Sir Edward Mansel, first Baronet of Trimsaran, by her marriage with William Langdon, of Bristol. Susanna Tynte's maiden name cannot be ascertained. The Tyntes were of some importance in Somerset, owning lands at Chelvey and Goathurst. It is worthy of note that John Tynte (died 1710) married Jane, eldest daughter of Sir Charles Kemeys, of Cefn Mabley, Glamorgan; this was either daughter or granddaughter of Dame Blanche, above mentioned.¹

There is also evidence of a marriage between a Maunsell of Somerset and the family of Cappis. The will of Dorothy Cappis, of East Quantockshead, is dated December 16, 1640, and was proved by her brother, William Cappis, March 8, 1641. There is a legacy to "my brother Maunsell's wife"; and "children of my brother Hodges"—"my brothers William Cappis and Marmaduke Maunsell to see my will performed."² This Marmaduke is probably the fourth son of Richard Maunsell (living 1573 ?) as in the Harley MS. pedigree. The Cappis family apparently intermarried with the Hodges, as did the Maunsells.

The will of John Maunsell of North Petherton, dated July 28, 1586, and proved in the same year, directs that he is to be buried in the church of North Petherton. He bequeaths to his five daughters, Jane, Katherine, Elizabeth, Mary, and Maud, each one hundred pounds and five pounds yearly; to his son Richard, now under twenty-one years of age, his demesne of Maunsell.³

This will challenges the Harley MSS. pedigree, which, as will be noticed, gives John Mauncell of Mauncell, who married Katherine Cooke, a son Richard, and daughters Jane, Katherine, and Elizabeth, which sufficiently establishes his identity with the testator. If this son Richard was under twenty-one years of age in 1586, he obviously

¹ "Abstract of Somersetshire Wills." Series VI., p. 93. "History of Somerset." Vol. II., p. 317.

² "Abstract of Somersetshire Wills." Series V., p. 55.

³ *Ibid.*, Series V., p. 31.

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could not be the father of John who is named as "son and heir" in 1573. The pedigree is supported in some particulars, as has been noticed, by independent evidence; but there appears to be some blunder in the later stages, which it is not possible to elucidate; the will is, of course, unimpeachable, and so the matter must be left.

This discrepancy is not of any great moment; sufficient testimony has already been adduced as illustrating the continuity of the Maunsells in Somerset from early times to nearly the end of the sixteenth century. Fifty years later they sold the Maunsell estate, and they now seem to have altogether disappeared from the county.

The Maunsell estate has remained in the possession of the Slade family. The present holder (1918) is Sir Alfred Fotheringham Slade, fifth baronet, whose address is given in *Burke—Maunsell House, Bridgwater, Somerset*.¹

¹ The baronetcy was created September 30, 1811, in the person of General John Slade, who greatly distinguished himself in the Peninsular War.

